40p (IR 15p)



Stress-and how to beat it

How healthy are you? Part 2

INSIDE SECTION TWO

People-watching in the South of France

The best beaches on the Côte d'Azur

Meet Diane Torr, political drag king

Not just your average cross-dresser



Russia pulls back from spy showdown

Threat to expel nine diplomats

PHIL REEVES and HELEN WOMACK Moscow and JOHN LICHFIELD

Intense negotiations were underway last night in an effort to dampen down the worst spying row between Britain and Russia since the Cold War. The move came amid continued pressure from hardliners in Moscow's security services for the expulsion of nine British embassy staff.

It appeared that Moscow might at least be reconsidering the severity of its proposed action, according to British sources, with signs of differences between the Russian security

services and the foreign ministry. The British ambassador to Moscow, Sir Andrew Wood, had a 30-minute meeting with Russia's Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov, yesterday in an attempt to iron out the crisis, which began with the arrest of a young Russian man who was allegedly recruited by MI6.

The ambassador emerged from the meeting saying only that the discussion had been "private" - raising hopes that Moscow and London may have made progress in trying to find a discreet deal to end the scandal before further damage is done to bilateral relations.

The Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Riffond, said last night that Mr Primakov did not formally repeat the threat to expel British diplomats during the meeting. Mr Rifkind said Mr Primakov told Sir Andrew that Russia "wanted to avoid any emotional or rushed decisions During a lengthy meeting, called at Mr Primakov's request, the Russians apparently did not confirm - but did not

withdraw - yesterday's threat to expel nine British diplomats. "No demands were made of

a kind that I'm familiar with." Mr Rifkind said in Birmingham, where he had chaired a meeting of European foreign and defence ministers.

Had Mr Primakov confirmed the expulsion of nine diplomats - as the Federal Security Services, the new KGB, demanded - past practice suggests that the ambassador would have



announced it immediately. It ended a day of confusion over the fate of the Britons which - tic mood of voters. agreement between the FSB and the Russian Foreign Ministry tensions that have arisen despite Mr Primakov's past employment as the head of the foreign

intelligence services. The FSB said that Sir Andrew Wood had been handed a list of nine British diplomats at the embassy who had been declared "persona non grata" for having links with the agent, who is accused of "passing on political, defence, and strategic information".

But later in the day the For-eign Ministry - which officially has responsibility for foreign relations - declined to confirm this. Asked when a decision on the expulsions would be taken, a ministry spokesman, Grigory Karasin, said: "As soon as we know about it, we will let you

have divided the two government departments is how Russia should respond to the arrest of the alleged spy. In contrast to the FSB, which is known to contain a large hardline anti-Western element, Mr Karasin was at pains to limit the diplomatic damage: "We see our main task as avoiding an over-emotional reaction and hasty decisions which could have a negative effect on the successful development of intergovernmental relations."

His conciliatory tone gave rise to hopes that there will not be a tit-for-tat exchange between London and Moscow, with both sides throwing out more of the other's nationals. But with an election looming, the Russian government may attempt to exploit the present nationalis-

it clear yesterday that if the expulsions did go ahead, his veiled threat on Monday to respond in kind would also stand. "We welcome the fact that the Russian government is discussing their concerns with us." he said.

Reading between the lines, it appears that Britain accepts that a genuine case of espionage has been uncovered. But it regards the proposed Russian re-

sponse as grossly exaggerated, possibly for electoral reasons.

The six that batsman Paul Jarvis struck for Sussex in the last over of their match against Surrey struck the wrong note possibly for electoral reasons.

With one neighbouring householder. As the ball cleared the ground at Hove, spectators heard a crash and the resident Further reports, page 10 i of a nearby flat got a unwelcome surprise

The six that bowled a matron over **Tories** fall out

over MPs' cash

JOHN RENTOUL and CHRIS BLACKHURST

Some of the Tory party's highest-carning MPs were under attack from their colleagues last night for refusing to disclose all of their outside income in the new Register of Members' In-

terests published yesterday.

MPs who had fully declared their outside income yesterday privately expressed their bitterness about senior colleagues who had not disclosed everything they carned in addition to

their parliamentary salaries. "I feel very bitter about those who haven't declared fully. The big-hitters are avoiding declaring," said one backbencher. He also blamed John Major for "getting us into this mess".

A number of Tory MPs, including former Cabinet members David Mellor. Douglas Hurd, Kenneth Baker and Norman Lamont, and former prime minister Sir Edward Heath. have not declared on the vast majority of their outside income, arguing that it is not related to their role as MPs.

The new register reveals differences over the interpretation of the new rules, brought in alter the Nolan report into standards in public life.

As a result the highest outside earnings declared yesterday were those of Roy Hattersley, he Labour tormer deput leader, with a possible maximum of £110,000 last year.

Mr Hattersley said he had conformed to the spirit of the agreement and regretted that others had not. Sir Gordon Downey, the standards commissioner, admitted that members had had difficulty interpreting the rules but he said it was up to the Commons "to judge whether the information provided matches that intended under the resolution".

Who are the fat cats? page 2

MIND WREN IT COMES TO

"I'm careful with money.

They gave me the best quote.

l rang AA Insurance.

I didn't pay over the odds."

DOME INSUBANCE

Olympic athletes 'told to sign away rights'



Diane Modahi: 'Would have had no chance of clearing her name

MIKE ROWBOTTOM Athletics Correspondent

Competitors at this summer's Atlanta Olympics are being asked to sign away their legal rights in any disputes, including those involving drugs. If they do not agree to abide

by the decision of an ad hoc sporting commission at the Games, the International Olympic Committee will not allow them to take part. Vicente Modahl, whose wife,

Diane Modahl, won a long battle against doping allegations last month after being sent home from the 1994 Commonwealth Games, described the IOC proposal as a "gross violation of human rights." He and other agents are calling for suing them for £480,000 the plan to be abandoned. The news that British com-

petitors will be required, for the first time, to sign such an entry form for the Olympics came as a surprise to the British Athletic

Federation yesterday.
Its spokesman, Tony Ward, commented: "Our position is that people should always have legal redress in such cases if they find they have been hard done by. It is a basic human right."

The federation has recently had to pay for its principle - in a sequence to her appeal against the initial four-year doping ban imposed by a BAF panel in

British competitors already sign an agreement with the British Olympic Association when they come to pick up their uniforms. The contract obliges them to accept IOC jurisdiction,

but does not preclude going to law to challenge any ruling. Du'Aine Ladejo, Britain's European 400m champion, commented: "I can see where the IOC are coming from. They want to simplify things at their end. But I can't see any athlete signing away their rights for a

The Olympic entry form includes the following clause:

"lagree that the decisions of lanta tribunal, defended the the Court of Arbitration for IOC position. "There is no rea-Sport shall be final, nonappealable and enforceable. I shall not institute any claim, ar-

bitration, or litigation or seek any form of relief in any other court or tribunal." Vicente Modahl is among those calling for the document to be reconsidered. "If Diane had signed a document like this before the Commonwealth Games of 1994 she would have been found guilty within the premises of the Commonwealth Games and she would have

had no chance of challenging the verdict later." Michael Beloff QC, the British representative on the At-

IOC position. "There is no reason at all." he said, "why a panel of this kind shouldn't be able to adjudicate on a drugsrelated dispute very promptly and very fairly. The technology is available, the parties can be represented, and the body is familiar with the rules that

govern the sport. Legal sources last night suggested that matter would probably be one for the American courts to decide. But the possibility that English courts might consider they had jurisdiction was not ruled out - and if this was the case, they are likely to be extremely resistant to the IOC proposal.

IN BRIEF TV drive to kill speed The most powerful advertise-

ments ever seen on British television" were launched by the Government yesterday as part of a campaign against speeding Page 3

Child sex murder Two men abducted, sexually assaulted and killed a nine-

year-old boy to satisfy a "per-

verted" sexual fantasy, a court heard yesterday. Today's weather Dry and bright with good sunny

spells. Section Two, page 29



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Musician Grant Aprieth Genera, Principal Read, Austroprinter, 1924 (1937, Regionerral de 24) 1277 Emplesed, Ambject to d services in she sitt to diplomera palaries are contacte on respect in contacted particular particular palaries (And services in she set to depress of the services of the second particular in th

Ruling drives gardener to verge of despair

A pensioner who has lovingly nurtured the verge in front of his home for 30 years has been told the fruits of his horticultural efforts are illegal.
George Raper, 83, and his wife, Patricia. of Little Fran-

sham, near Dercham, Norfolk, were amazed when a letter arrived from Norfolk County Council's planning and transportation department, saying their rockery was in breach of the Highways Act 1980.

A county council spokesman said rocks placed near to a roud posed a danger to pedestrians. But he was at a loss to explain why it had taken officials 30 years to notice the Rapers'

Mr Raper said the council's attitude was ridiculous: "The

section

years. I put it there after we moved in because the place had been neglected by the local authority and it was full of rubbish. They say it's dangerous, but it is six feet long, two feet wide and six inches high. It's at the end

of a dead end anyway, so no-

body is going to fall over it. "I've been getting a lot of sup-port, from local people and the parish council. I'm going to sit this out to the end. But if they decide to take me to court there's no way I can defend myself against that. I've planted daffodils, tulips and bluebells and I'll just take the ruddy lot out. The villagers won't like

Mrs Raper accused the councii of behaving in an "ludi-crous" fashion: "He's been tending it for 30 years and in all

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word about it. Now they say it's dangerous. It's ludicrous and

everybody thinks so."

She added that they would be writing to the council to question the decision. Council officials are expected to hold discussions with the couple in the near future.

A council spokesman said the rocks and flowers were all tech-nically illegal. "The flowers we don't really have a problem with," he said. "We can come to some arrangement over that. But the rocks placed so near to the road are dangerous, especially if people are trying to cross

But if the rocks were so dangerous, why had it taken the council 30 years to decide? "I'm still trying to get to the bot-tom of that," he added.



section TWO

ARTS 6,7 BRIDGET JONES 5 . CHESS 27 CROSSWORD 30 FINANCE 18 LAW 23,24 LISTINGS 28,29 MONEY 12-17 RADIO 31 THEATRE 8.9 TV 32 WEATHER 29

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> player labou do no sibly giants to fine hard dispu

CI not

With Michael Portillo away either banning lethal weapons, or selling them (or both), defence questions in the House were fielded by the comic duo of Arbuthnot and Soames.

Ostensibly James Arbuthnot is the straight man. Heir presumptive to a baronetcy and a guitar player, his main role is to attack Labour for being soft on defence. This he does with the absolute minimum of vocal inflection, rhetorical flourish, or broadcast as delivered by the speaking clock: "At the first stroke Labour is a party we know



DAVID AARONOVITCH

ter is the declaration in the gravest monotone of preposterous statements. Yesterday, for instance, he attributed to Labour a Transport & General Workers' Union policy which, he droned, would mean "a cut of

wouldn't be able to afford any armed forces at all, but would have to depend on civilians". In your dreams, James. For

opposite him on Labour's front bench was as blood-curdling a group of belligerent middleaged men as can be gathered together outside the Ulster marching season. In Dr John Reid (Motherwell North), John Spellar (Warley West) and Paul Murphy (Torfaen) New Labour has gathered to speak for it on defence a collection of small Celtic pugilists and Cockney bruisers - the sort who like to headbutt much larger chaps outside pubs at closing time. This group's concept of Labour

defence is gleaned from its Israeli counterparts. Talk peace, but if anyone messes with you, take out their grandmothers.

Comic duo way off target on question of devolution

Far from cutting defence their every instinct is to spend more on it. They love it - the planes, tanks, and marines. They can't wait until it's their turn to send the SAS into some desert or other, or be photographed with their balding bonces poking out of the hatch of a Challenger. Liberated from that dark period of pacifism, when everyone was forced to talk about "weapons of mass destruction" and "ban the bomb", they are now free to extol the unique virtues of Britain's military.

This led to an odd kind of could still see Britain's iron symmetry in the House. Labour ramparts, riding the High Seas, would attack the Government fuelled by Scottish coal. Mr Soames, a man of intufor cutting the Navy, the Army, ition, understood Mr Clarke's RAF flying instructors etc. and Mr Arbuthnot would reply by

leader Eric Clarke (Lab. Mid-

lothian) asked a regressive

question about the role of the

Navy. In his mind's eye he

The top 10 MPs in the Commons' league of outside declared earnings

romanticism. The honourable gentleman, he said was "caught accusing Labour of wanting to in the wonderful time-warp of cut them even more. One rather Midlothian". Up, from his spelonged for some old Footian cial cushion on the second (New Roy Hattersley, perhaps?) to stand up and applaud. I shouldn't have worried. To bench, arose the formidable figure of Tam Dalyell, MP for neighbouring Linlithsow. What did Soames of Midlothian my relief rode the other half of the incumbent comedy act. know? Specifically, "can he Nicholas Soames. It started name one town in the county?" when former Scottish miners'

There was a pause as Mr pames scanned the recesses of his memory for a file marked Midlothian: towns of - and

failed to find it. But he has been here before, and has a strategy.

There was a friendly roar.

What I know about Midlothi an can be written on the back of a very large postage stamp", he declared. "Except for the Midlothian question, which we are all waiting to hear the answer to."

The famour interrogation (concerning Scottish devolution) was, of course, actually the West Lothian question. Unblushingly Mr Soomes replied that the two Lothians couldn't be that far apart. Which, if you think about it, coming from a defence minister, is an uncomfortable answer for neighbours of, say, Libya or Iraq.

IN BRIEF

Arson triple killer locked up for life

A psychopath who killed his. landlady and her two children by setting fire to their home was ailed for life yesterday. Darren Carr. 25, who had been living with his landlady Susan Hear mon, 25, denied murdering her . -- her daughters Kylic, 6, and Julie Anne, 4, last June.

bumingham Crown Court accepted his guilty pleas to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Doctors said Carr was not mentally ill when he torched the terraced house in Abinedon. Oxfordshire, but had a psychopathic personality disorder.

Mr Justice Hidden told Carr his release date would not be reviewed by the parole board for eight years and they would be told not to consider freeing him until he was no longer a danger to the public.

A little extra

Teenagers' average weekly pocket money increased from £8.78 to £10.80 last year, and the number of young people choosing to save it rather than spend it increased from 28% to 43%. Only 9% spend it all, according to a survey by the Halifax Building Society of its 16 and 17-yearold savers. Money earned from part-time work has increased from £19.23 to £26.98. They spend most money on going out (77%), clothes (74%) and music and videos (62%).

Trigger happy

The controversial men's magazine Loaded was named consumer magazine of the year for the second year running by the Periodical Publishers Association. The magazine, which specialises in football, scantily-clad models, pop stars and comedians, was applauded by the association judges for its orig-inal ideas, writing and visuals. The title's publisher, Andy Mc-Duff, who is also responsible for Muzik and Goal, was named Publisher of the Year.

Search stepped up

Police have stepped up the search for a missing Asian stu-dent after his abandoned rucksack was found on a rock ledge at a Welsh beauty spot. Jiwaid Ahmed, 21, who is studying English at St David's College, Lampeter, disappeared from the college on 17 March, but was seen in the Aberystwyth area during the Easter holidays. Dyfed-Powys police and coastguards combed the seaside town's Constitution Hill area last weekend without success

News chief named

Channel 5, which goes on air next year, has appointed an editor for its news service. Chris Shaw, 38, a News At Ten editor, will launch the first new nonsatellite prime time news programme in Britain since Channel 4 News in 1982. Shaw joined ITN in 1984 and left for Sky News in 1988. He returned two years later as foreign editor during the Gulf War. Dawn Airey of Channel 5 said: "Chris is one of the most outstanding people

for drar

Mr. 2. -5 3

in television news today. Two found dead

Two teenagers were found dead from a suspected cocktail of drugs and drink in a flat in a sea-side town. The pair, believed to be aged 16 and 17 and from the Staffordshire area, were found dead by paramedics called to the flat in Torquay, Devon. Post mortem examinations will be carried out today to discover the exact cause of death.

Suspect collapses

A man being questioned about an arson attack in which four children died collapsed in his cell at Southampton Central police station. He was taken to Southampton General Hospital, where he is under police guard. The hospital said he was suffering from head injuries and his condition was satisfactory.

Worse than pointless

The Stanford Arms pub soccer team has been relegated from division one of the Lowestoft Sunday League in Suffolk with minus two points. Their solitary point from one draw in 18 games was wiped out when they lost three points after calling a match off because they could not field a full team.

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BACK ESSUES Back stores of the independent are postable from Historic Newspapers, reference USBN 402455.

What establishes Mr Ar- £18bn in the defence budget. We Hattersley rejects title as MPs' top earner

CHRIS BLACKHURST and JOHN RENTOUL

Roy Hattersley emerges as Par-liament's highest declared out-side earner, according to the new register of MPs interests published yesterday.

The operative word, though, is "declared". While Mr Hattersley, the former Labour deputy leader and MP for Birmingham Sparkbrook, picks up a maximum of £110,000 from two newspaper writing contracts - The Guardian pays him £25,001-£30,000 and the Mail on Sunday £75,001-£80,000 – he is not, by a mile, Westminster's

That distinction belongs to one of several Conservative MPs, who, while holding numerous external consultancies and directorships, have refused to reveal how much they are

Under the new, post-Nolan rules, they should declare how much they earn from contracts awarded to them for providing anger. He played by the rules services in their capacity as ministers to maintain they have been hired because they are former ministers, not current MPs.

It is difficult, looking at the posts held by the likes of Norman Lamont, David Mellor, Garel-Jones that they do not all earn more than Mr Hattersley. Similarly, some Tory MPs

have persuaded Sir Gordon Downey, the new policeman for parliamentary standards, that

ing to do with their day jobs as MPs.

Mr Mellor, the former Secretary of State for National Heritage, provides the most robust defence of his non-declaration in his entry: "It is not now, and never has been a contractual duty, implied or otherwise, that my services are provided in my capacity as an MP. The existence of these contracts is not dependent in any way upon my being an MP, nor does the duration of these contracts bear any relationship to

any parliamentary timetable." He declares the fact of his consultancies with 10 companies, but not the amounts received. The companies include: British Aerospace, Short Brothers, property developers Chels-field, chartered accountants Ernst & Young, shipbuilders Vosper Thorneycroft and

RACAL Tacticom Mr Hattersley's reaction to his top slot, yesterday, was a mixture of resignation and and has suffered accordingly, he Gordon and while he believed his newspaper deals were un-related to his position as an MP, he accepted the ruling that

The fact, said Mr Hattersley, Douglas Hurd and Tristan he is leaving Parliament at the next election to concentrate on writing and his existing newspaper deals will continue unaffected, did not wash with Sir Gordon. "I have contracts which all extend beyond the their outside posts have noth- time Parliament is dissolved

as an MP," he said - therefore, he argued, they could not relate to his being an MP.

Sir Gordon disagreed and Mr Hattersley has come top. "Nobody will believe I'm the hight earnei Commons," he said. "The system is breaking down already. The only way it can overcome if members are going to cheat is to pass a resolution that all

earnings be declared." Labour were not the only MPs to snipe over the new register. Tory MPs also drew attention yesterday to several large donations from trade unions for the offices of Labour shadow ministers, and to the ending of trade union sponsor-

and the moment I shall retire ship deals, which they said concealed continuing funding of local Labour parties. We are now being denied in-

formation we had before," said David Shaw, Tory MP for

They focused their fire on the funding arrangements for the offices of Tony Blair, John Labour's front bench team, Mr gether a number of declarations

Prescott and other members of Blair's new entry brings towhich have dribbled out in little-publicised supplements to the old register which are placed in the House of Commons Library. The Labour leader declares a Fender Stratocaster electric guitar, a gift

from the British Phonographic Industry. All gifts worth more than £125 have to be disclosed. More significantly, he has re-

his office is funded. Earlier this year the Labour leader's of-"blind trust", where Mr Blair and his office do not know the identity of contributors so that they cannot be influenced by them. The trustees of the fund are Lord (Merlyn) Rees, a former Home Secretary, Baroness (Brenda) Dean, the former print union leader, and Baroness (Margaret) Jay, a Labour health spokeswoman in

the House of Lords. This replaces funding through a body called the In- parties in which the MPs will

ed by Lord Haskel, a Northern industrialist, which continues to fund other frontbench offices, arranged the system by which a spokeswoman said.

MPs, the Labour leader decase the Transport and Gener-al Workers Union, contributed more than 25 per cent of his election expenses at the 1992 general election. But these declarations will

dustrial Research Trust, head-

cease after the next election, because the 1933 Hastings Agreement, under which unions sponsor individual Labour MPs, was ended three months ago. Instead, unions will reach agreements with local Labour

MP for Dover, condemned this as "outrageous non-disclosure". John Prescott, meanwhile, has set up his own trust, the As with most other Labour John Prescott Campaign/Research Trust to finance his Opposition. He declares a car on loan from Rover group and, belatedly, attendance at a seminar on the oil industry at the Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland in May 1994, sponsored by

play no part. David Shaw, Ton

Conoco. Tory MPs also intend to target Ian McCartney, a Labour employment spokesman, who declares £30,500 last year from

three unions, Unison, the Communication Workers and the Oyston 'conspiracy' claim

Owen Oyston, the multi-millionaire businessman who is accused of rape, told a court yesa long-running conspiracy by two government ministers. Oyston, chairman of Blackpool Football Club, alleged that Lord Blaker - formerly the Blackpool South MP Peter Blaker - and the ex-sports min-ister Robert Atkins, MP for South Ribble, had mounted the conspiracy against him and the North West Labour Party. Oyston, 62, a life-long Labour supporter, told Liverpool Crown Court that he had 48 hours of tape recordings of conversations between Lord

Blaker, Mr Atkins, Blackpool

senior people in the Conservafailed to have a civil action against them heard because of a lawyer's mistake. He was now acting through the European Court of Human Rights.

Earlier, a detective told the court - where Oyston denies raping two teenage models - that at the start of an interview in February last year the tycoon claimed his arrest at Claughton Hall, his home near Lancaster, was linked to the conspiracy. It was, Oyston said, only three weeks before his civil case against the politicians was due before the High Court. He alleged that a "very nasty"

campaign had been waged against him for 10 to 12 years. "I am sufficiently cynical in life after these vicious attacks over

the years by newspapers and in- cluded mansion late at night. tive Party". Oyston said he had dividuals to think there is a connection," he told the officer. On the eighth day of the rape trial, Oyston said that at one

time he was being investigated by the Fraud Squad, the Inland Revenue, the Drugs Squad, the City's regulatory takeover body IMRO, international private investigators, the Sunday Times and other newspapers. He told defence counsel Anthony Scrivener, QC, that he had been cleared of wrong-doing. In 1989, he won substantial damages, costs and an apology from the Sunday Times. Oyston denies two charges of

rape and a further charge of indecently assaulting one of the girls. The first girl claimed she was forced into sex, aged 18, after being driven to his se-

The second said she was forced to have oral sex in the back of a car, and then watched Oyston have sex on a bed with another girl before joining them and being raped at the age of 16.

Oyston, who divorced his wife Vicky in 1982 and remarried her six years later, said that in between, when he was chief executive of the Miss World group, he had "a lot of girl-friends". He claimed a longstanding sexual relationship with the first girl. "I have nev er raped anyone. If I had, I would be deeply ashamed. There is absolutely no need for that in life. If I want to have sex, it is not the hardest thing for a man in my position."

The trial was adjourned

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businessman William Harrison, a man named Michael Murrin and "a whole range of other Elderly test council care cuts in court

The right of thousands of elderly and disabled people to contest was put to the test yesterday in an appeal court challenge against cutbacks imposed after councils ran out of funds, writes Patricia Wynn Davies.

A ruling in favour of the two cash-strapped councils involved in the appeal will give the green light to local authorities to resess the needs for services throughout England and Wales.

In the linked appeals a pen-sioner, Michael Barry, represented by Richard Gordon OC and the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (Radar), represented by Cherie Booth QC, claim that Gloucestershire and Lancashire councils respectively broke the law

by withdrawing services even though needs of elderly and dis-abled people had not changed.

The court's decision, expected within a few weeks, is viewed by community care experts as the potential high-wa-ter mark of the impact of judicial review in the community care field.

Mr Barry's case was originally brought on behalf of 1,500 other disabled and elderly people who had home help services summarily withdrawn by Gloucestershire in September 1994. The other case concerns Annie Ingham, 88, whose 24hour home care services were stopped despite an assessment that residential care was damaging her health. She has since died.

Easing of beef ban still 'months away'

The European Commission believes it will be months before member states will agree to lift the ban on British beef, sources in Brussels said yesterday, writes Sarah Helm.

The Commission, which wants to ease the ban, will today attempt to gauge which states are ready to agree with it. The idea of lifting the ban on gelatine and tallow, two beef-related products, will be floated at the second day of a meeting in Brussels of the EU's Standing Veterinary Commission.

Germany is expected to reject the proposal and others may follow. However, if Germany is the only objector, the measure could be voted through. A vote would then be taken next week on easing the ban.

Member states remain extremely worried about Britain's failure to provide reassurance that eradication is being properly carried out. Britain "appeared incapable of organising an eradication programme",

said one senior official Britain's partners insist there should be evidence of a programme producing a fall in BSE cases, meaning that an easing of the ban could be "several months down the line", according to one official.

■ A farmer who falsified forms to claim cattle he sold had come from BSE-free farms was fined £30,000 by a court. David Dunster, 62, of Dartington, south Devon, was also ordered to pay £8,500 costs at Plymouth

Poignant video that says: speed does kill

Remember me wii

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

The assembled press was silent as the television screen went blank, and the minister, Steven Norris, was fighting back tears as he tried to speak. No one could disagree when he finally managed to blurt out that "this is the most powerful advertisement ever seen on British tele-

The new advertisements, which are the latest instalment in a five-year campaign against speeding drivers, have broken new ground by showing home video footage of children who were later killed in road accidents near their homes. The images of happy children at home and on holiday, a couple of

Attitude problem

People regard drinking and driving as a crime as serious as armed robbery, but consider urban speeding only slightly more serious than TV licence evasion, according to a Department Of Transport survey yesterday. Speeding, generally, was seen as extremely serious by 52 per cent, but only 33 per cent thought doing 40mph in a 30mph limit was extremely serious, compared to 42 per cent who thought evading the TV licence was.

them even waving goodbye as if knowing their fate, are the backdrop to readings of poems about death by WH Auden, Christina Rossetti and Walter de la Mare. At the end, it is revealed that all the children were killed in road accidents. The result is incalculably more effective than the sleek advertisements with ac-

tors used in the past. The videos of six children -Laura, just 6 weeks old, Tracy, William, 11, and Donna, 13 -

Funeral Blues

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone, Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone, Silence the pianos and with muffled drum Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead Let aeropianes circie moaning overneau
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policeman wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, My East and West, My working week and my Sunday rest. My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song. I thought that love would last forever, I was wrong.

are all being used with the permission of the parents as part of a £1.7m campaign that will be running this month. It also includes a series of radio advertisements featuring the voices of relatives of the children. The parents were traced by the advertising agency, Abbott Mead Vickers, through local council road safety officers, but have been promised anonymity.

Mr Norris, the roads minis ter, who asked that the families be left alone with their grief, said the youngsters had all been killed near their homes and all within 30mph speed limit zones. He stressed that the campaign was not aimed at "boy racers" who were unlikely to change their habits, but at "Mr and Mrs average responsible citizen" who did not understand the dangers

of speeding in urban areas. He said that over 1,200 people - a third of the total road deaths toll, including 160 child pedestrians - were killed and over 100,000 people injured in 1995 in speed-related crashes. RoadPeace, the national charity representing victims of road crashes, said that advertising campaigns do "little on their own to cut speeds". The organisation is calling for a 20mph limit in built-up areas,

Mr Norris said that while over 200 20mph zones had been established in the past five years, a blanket introduction in urban areas would be counterproductive because it would be widely ignored on roads where

on-board speed limiters on new

vehicles and tougher speed en-

"it seemed inappropriate". Edmund King, head of cam-paigns at the RAC, welcomed the campaign and said: "Physical traffic-calming has grown with the spread of cameras and road humps, but what we really need is mental traffic-calmaged 6. Adam, 7. Andrew, 11, ing in the minds of a minority







Highland rail plan gets the go-ahead

By STEPHEN GOODWIN

The controversial plan to build a funicular railway on Cairn Gorm, one of Britain's highest mountains, moved closer to reality yesterday when Scottish Natural Heritage grudgingly withdrew its objec-tion to the £17m project.

SNH chairman Magnus Magnusson and his board met for more than three hours to discuss a management plan, proposed by the Cairngorm Chairlift Company, to protect environmentally sensitive high mountain plateau.

Though the railway will provide more jobs, it will dismay

conservation groups.

The RSPB, who own land on the plateau vital for rare birds such as the dotterel and snow bunting, are likely to pursue their opposition to the railway through the European Commission. The area is subject to the EU's most stringent rules for environment protection.

SNH also said it remained "highly sceptical" about the project. It added: "While the development may be made tolerable, we remain highly sceptical that it is desirable or is the best development option for tourism in this area.

"Our experience of this case confirms our view that there is an urgent need for a more strategic and consensus-building approach to planning."

But despite the cautiouslyworded decision, there was a huge sigh of relief from the company, who said the £17 million project and the 360 jobs it will bring, was essential to the survival of Britain's biggest ski re-

They can begin putting together the financial package. which involves crucial European funding, to make the project a reality, with construction expected to start in the spring of 1997.

Chairman Hamish Swan said: "We are pleased that redevelopment of the ski area will now proceed without a costly

and lengthy public inquiry." The 2km funicular is planned to carry about 1200 skiers an hour. It will scale the slopes in just five minutes, mostly along a viaduct built on 93 concrete

'McLibel' trial loses taste for dramatic on day 245

NICHOLAS SCHOON

They have been at it for 245 days and it shows. The judge in Britain's longest civil court case, the McLibel trial, struggles to keep his exasperation at bay with kindly smiles.

But Richard Rampton QC, counsel for McDonald's, is unsmiling in his testy interventions. Within seconds of David Morris, one of the defendants, beginning his halting, "um"-laced cross-examination of the hamburger giant's top man in Britain vesterday, Mr Rampton rose. "He's already playing to the gallery," he complained. The "McLibel two", Mr Mor-

ris and Helen Steel, had urged the press to attend the High Court in London yesterday to hear their resumed cross examination of Paul Preston, president and chief executive of the corporation's 674 UK restaurants. He was last on the stand almost two years ago.

was a had one - overwritten, lacking pace, and hard to pick up the plot (unless some malign twist of fate had compelled you to spend the previous 244



Patient pair: McLibel duo David Morris and Helen Steel

first of several such interjections. Next month will see the second anniversary of the case. More than 500 thick, bound files now line the walls of Court 35 laden with transcripts.

McDonald's claims Mr Mor-

jected Mr Justice Beil. It was the

almost two years ago.

But if day 245 was meant to be a courtroom drama, then it be a courtroom drama, then it leading lights in the publication and distribution of a leaflet which said eating McDonald's food could cause bowel and breast cancer and heart disease.

uays in court).

"No, just pause there, this is going to be hopeless," interpaid and would be dismissed if paid and would be dismissed if

they tried to join a trade union, and that the production of Mc-Donald's food caused hunger in the Third World and the destruction of rainforests. At the top of the leaflet were the ords: "McCancer, McDisease, McHunger and McDeath."

The defendants, both unemployed and reliant on state benefits, deny publishing the leaflet but argue that its con-tents are true. They have counclaiming that a "McFact" sheet about their action libelled them.

support network has sprung up with a "McSpotlight" site on the Internet boasting 1,800 files

covering the case.

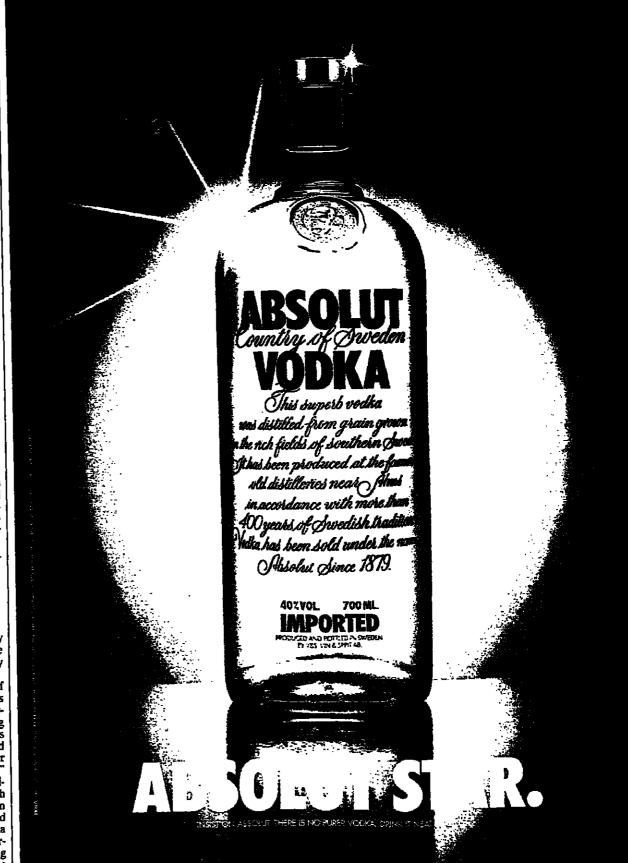
For the McLibel two the longer the case goes on the better. Some of the 180 witnesses have given evidence that paints McDonald's in a grim light and it makes them look like David's fighting a corporate Goliath.

For McDonald's, the only

prize is for the judge to find against the defendants and decide the allegations were untrue when the case eventually ends, perhaps later this year. It will have cost the chain several million pounds and there is no prospect of recovering any worthwhile damages. Yesterday, the defendants

pointed to what they said were conflicts between witness statements and "McFacts" published by McDonald's, and asked the UK president to admit the lat-

But Mr Preston, an American who helped run Britain's first McDonald's 21 years ago. stonewalled. "I don't lie, there's no future in that," he said. He did admit one mistake - claims terclaimed against McDonald's, from McDonald's that it had written to the defendants asking them to desist before issu-



Parents take girl, 12, off catwalk

REBECCA FOWLER

11:11

The parents of a 12-year-old girl have put her modelling career on hold following the outcry over her sophisticated appearance in a fashion shoot in which she wore adult clothes.

Rachel Kirby, from north London, was signed up by the Select Model Agency last month after she was spotted expected to be earning £500 a

But the decision to employ Rachel has prompted concern over the increasingly young age that models begin their careers, and the example they set for women and young girls,

their weight. A recent survey revealed that half of 11- and 12year-old girls believed they were overweight.

The Select agency, which has 70 schoolgirls on its books, denied yesterday it was exploiting Rachel. It said that with the backing of her parents, James Kirby, a chartered engineer studying law, and his wife Gaye, a charity worker, it had her 13th birthday she was put her career on hold to protect her from "press inter-

Although Rachel is only 12, she is 5ft 10in, and appears much older in photographs tak-en for ID magazine. She is heavily made-up and pouting in the style of adult models, but she

Dr Dee Dawson, who runs the Rhodes Farm Clinic in London for anorexic children, said: There are two problems here. one for the girl who will be absolutely terrified by the changes happening to her body, because she will no longer be placed in the 'superwaif' cate-

Secondly there is the problem for the 16- and 17-year-old girls who see these pictures in figure which is completely

Other agencies said yesterday they would resist employing such young girls in the first place. Although most will take

many of whom are obsessed by has the skinniness of a child on 14-year-olds part-time, they them to the spotlight until they were at least 16.

Jose Fonseca, director of Models One which represents Yasmin Le Bon, Twiggy and Jerry Hall, said: "You are playing around with their childhood, it's just too young and they need their time to grow up and for their bodies to change shape."

She added: "The older models have actually become much more popular because women magazines, and will aspire to a are fed up of buying clothes and make-up that is modelled by a 16-year-old. A lot of the American designers, including Donna Karan, are using the older ones because women want to see real women."

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Life for a loner who killed school friends

LOUISE JURY

A former army cadet instructor was given a life sentence yesterday for the murders of two schoolboy friends, Paul Barker and Robbie Gee, on a fishing

Mr Justice Ognall warned the man, Steven Heaney, that there must be a "profound anxiety as to the continuing risk you present" if releasing him was ever

Afterwards police revealed Heaney is to be questioned in connection with at least one other crime - a sexual assault on two schoolboys at a fishing pond in Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, in 1990.

Heaney, 37, a loner who lived with his parents in Eastham. Merseyside, had initially denied murder when Paul, 13, was found stabbed to death and 12-year-old Robert, known as Robbie, strangled and stabbed. But he admitted the killings

when trial began at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday, more than nine months after the boys' bodies were discovered by a pond near the M53 motorway in Eastham.

Mr Justice Ognall told him:
"You put a brutal end to two innocent young lives. The medical reports indicate that you are fully responsible for what you did." Richard Henriques QC,



Paul Barker, 13 (left), and his friend Robbie Gee, 12, both murdered by Paul Heaney (right) while on a fishing trip

You put a brutal end to two innocent young lives. The medical reports indicate that you are fully responsible for what you did'

Mr Justice Ognall to Heaney

running up to the murders Heaney had engaged in befriending children near his home, in at least one case using a water-testing device which was probably a sham.

He approached two 13-yearold boys and told them about nearby badgers and owls and arranged to meet them the next day. They took a 12-year-old girl with them who Heaney attempted to grab. Both the boys declined his offer to go with him in his car.

Then on the day of 29 July, he met Paul Barker and Robbie Gee and directed them to other pond where he strangled

He separated the boys, who had been friends since infants school, by suggesting to Paul he went to look at another pond.

"At that pond, it is beyond question that the defendant strangled Paul Barker with a wire ligature that several times encircled his neck and was pulled tight from behind." Mr Henriques said. Paul was also hit several times around the head with a mallet, suffering a fractured skull, and was stabbed nine times with considerable force.

Mr Henriques said Heaney must then have returned to the

hands and stabbed him 10 times

Both boys had their trousers pulled down, their shirts pulled up and baseball caps over their eyes when they were found during a police search the next day. Heaney had gone for a drink at his local pub after carrying out the killing

David Steer QC said Heaney. a factory worker, regretted his actions and felt contempt for

The defendant had a hitherto unblemished character, and the court heard he had a record of running a "good detachment" with the army cadets for several years where the children had responded to him.

Mr Steer added: "These vere, of course, dreadful deeds which the sentences are fixed by law. We fear that any-thing we have to say will pale into insignificance.

Neither the Gee nor the Barker family felt able to attend court yesterday, but will be sent transcripts of the 30minute hearing. Detective Con-stable Paul Tomlinson, one of the police liaison officers who looked after them, said: "Their lives have been devastated by

A Ministry of Defence spokeswoman said they had no record of any suggestions of

meet him at one of the ponds. Robbie, an only child, with his Boy, 9, abducted and killed to satisfy 'perverted sex fantasy'

MICHAEL STREETER

Two men abducted, sexually assaulted and killed nine-yearold Daniel Handley to satisfy a "perverted" sexual fantasy, a court was told yesterday.

In a "hit and run" attack, the men snatched Daniel, from a London street, videoed themselves having sex with him and then strangled the schoolboy before burying his body in a wood, the Old Bailey heard.

John Bevan, for the prosecution, told the jury: "If this sounds like a description of acts callously inhumane and depraved almost beyond belief, that is exactly what this case is about. You will hear evidence about as depressing an example of the dark side of human nature, man's inhumanity to man and downright wicked-

ness as you could imagine." Brett Tyler, 30, admits false imprisonment and buggery, but denies murdering Daniel on 2 October 1994. His former

You will hear evidence about as depressing an example of the dark side of human nature, man's inhumanity to man and downright wickedness as you could imagine'

John Bevan, for the prosecution

to the self-confessed homosexuals were, "Are you going to kill me?" Seconds later, he was strangled with a length of knotted rope as he fell asleep.

Mr Bevan said Daniel - an "ordinary, harmless" schoolboy - was singled out by the men because of his looks. "If he had not been blond, presumably he would be alive today."

On the day he was abducted, Daniel had been playing with

boy," Mr Bevan told jurors. "Presumably, they saw the East End, where neither they nor their car was known, as an 'ideal hunting ground for young boys aged between 8 and 13."

Under the pretext of looking for directions, the pair pushed Daniel into Morss's Peugeot estate car and drove the boy to flat in Camberwell, south east London, where both of them filmed and buggered him.

was told by his mother to return the M4, strangled in a lay-by to their Beckton home, in east close to junction 14 and buried London, by 6pm. At the same in a shallow grave in woods adtime, Tyler and Morss - who joining Bradley Stoke, near started a homosexual affair Bristol. Two weeks later, the after meeting in prison - were men buried the body deeper, out "cruising" in London's East claimed Mr Bevan. The boy's End, said Mr Bevan. "Morss grave was near a house which lover, Timothy Morss, 33, has admitted murder. The court heard that Daniel's last words ed to abduct, bugger and kill a lover, David Guttridge, 60. He

had no knowledge of the incident at the time, but faces sentencing for attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Britain where he was arrested.

strangled Daniel. At a later interview, Tyler said he told Morss he could not go through with the killing and stood outside the car while the boy was killed. Mr Bevan said this claim was "fanciful". The

Despite a massive police hunt, Daniel's body was not dis-covered for six months. After the murder, Tyler fled to the Philippines to "indulge" his preference for young boys, said Mr Bevan. Morss later joined him, his flight paid for by Guttridge, but the pair came to blows and Morss returned to

Officers brought Tyler back from the Philippines and he was later charged. Tyler admitted abducting buggering and videoing Daniel. During the car journey, he alleged Morss told him: "You know what we have got to said Morss urged him to "pull harder and harder" as they

Bequest of potter who got school's goat.



A vase given by the renowned potter Hans Coper to a Somerset school in 1972 up for sale at Sotheby's yesterday. The 2ft 6in-vase, which Coper made in exchange for a goat, failed to raise its £20,000 reserve Photograph: Edward Sykes

Safety alert over holiday hire cars

GLENDA COOPER

Finding a safe hired car abroad can have "worse odds than Russian roulette", consumers were warned yesterday.

British holidaymakers could find themselves driving away sloppy servicing, faulty headlights or missing indicators, according to a survey carried out for Holiday Which? magazine

Of 57 cars inspected in Corfu and Spain last autumn, 17 were condemned as dangerous. The inspectors estimated that the chances of hiring a car that a customer would be happy with were less than 50-50. Only five of the 57 cars sed the inspections with no faults, while another 15 passed muster but with minor, nonsafety related problems. One in three cars were either badly serviced or not adequately checked

Dangerous tyres were the most common problem, with 16 out of 57 cars falling into this category. The risk of a blow-out is much greater in a tyre with a bulge in the side wall or a cut through to the fabric. And

deep, especially in the wet or deathtrap," the inspectors com-with dust and sand on the road mented.

Among other cars tested, they found headlights and brake lights not working, seriously irregular tyre pressures and a car that overheated only 5 kilometres from the hire shop.

One of the worst examples was a Fiat Panda hired in Corfu town which had sharp edges sticking out of a bashed-in wing. an indicator missing, and a bent wheel [indicating possible steering damage]. "A bald, cut road-handling is seriously af-fected by tyres that are bald or headlight and dodgy spare tyre with tread less than 1.6mm made this car even more of a customers.

The magazine advises holidaymakers to choose a company with a British base and to look at their hire car very carefully, particularly the tyres before driving away.

"We are very worried that serious faults are not being renaired - or even spotted," said Patricia Yates, editor of Holiday Which?

"People's lives are being put at risk. We have asked hire companies to take these unfit cars



Lonely lottery millionaire

Lottery winner Karl Crompton became Britain's most eligible bachelor yesterday but admitted "money can't buy me love".

For £10.9-million winner Karl is too shy to ask the girl of his dreams out. Karl, 23, has admired her from afar but she only has eyes for her boyfriend. The girl who holds the key to

his heart does not know who he is – and Karl would not reveal her name as he picked up his National Lottery cheque. Asked if he would ask her out now he was a millionaire, he said: "No, ... I don't think her boyfriend would be very pleased."



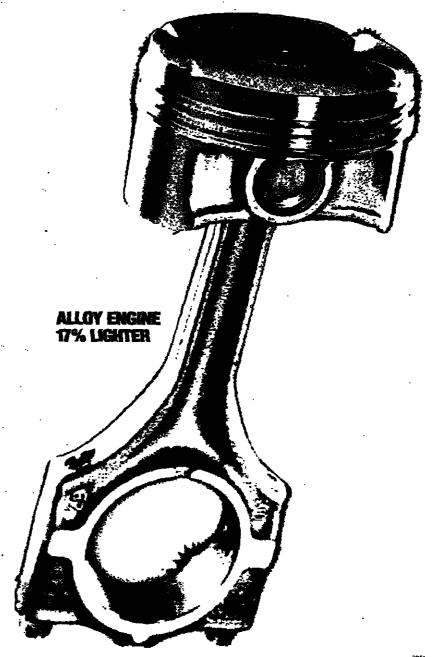
£10.9m - but no girlfriend

DAILY POEM **Throwing Roses**

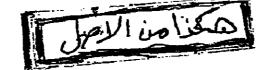
By Jeremy Reed

The statue's eyes turn green. It's my mistake supposing Japanese girls use chopsticks to make their eyes up as well as address a seaweed salad discriminately, and so often your words turn blue in talking of the sea, how a wave leans on green convexity to catch the sky in its reflection. Oriental girls are flowers which have learnt to pout. We use words which are metaphors on stalks, or roses thrown into a panther's mouth Cloud building up, I think of small harbours contact-lensed into a distraught coastline; and it is squid the lipsticked mouth savours in Osaki, gradually by fibres, spreading the knowledge deeper to the throat. The statue's eyes turn back to red as rain moves in, and somewhere miles from here, small prawns are darting out of crimson weed into a current circulating clear.

Jeremy Reed has been described as the lone inheritor of the British surrealist tradition which in the 1930s had an impact on poets such as David Gascoyne, Charles Madge, Lawrence Durrell and Herbert Read. His first collection By the Fisheries. which won the Somerset Maugham Award in 1985, was championed for its rich and subversive fin-de-siècle imagery. The handling of fashionable themes such as Aids, drugs and rock and roll have been less successful. This poem, almost a blueprint of the surrealist's art, is taken from his latest collection Sweet Sister Lyric published by Enitharmon at £7.95.







A CAR GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

20.02, 52



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Bill to outlaw jailing of 22,500 defaulters

Home Affairs Correspondent

A bid to end the centuries-old practice of jailing petty fine defaulters - up to 500 a day is to be launched by MPs later this month.

Concern that magistrates' courts are sending thousands of people to prison - often illegally - for small debts and nonpayment of fines has prompted the drawing up of a Bill designed to cut the use of custody, except in the most extreme circumstances. Drawn up by probation officers, they estimate that the measures will reduce the 22,500 defaulters and debtors jailed every year by about 80 per cent and will save the taxpayer up to £20m per annum.

It will be introduced by Alex Carlisle of the Liberal Democrats later this month, but has cross-party support.

The fact that magistrates

their powers to jail people for many defaulters were placing an not paying poll tax and for unwelcome burden on hardtelevision licences was first highlighted by the Independent 18 months ago, prompting a change in magistrates' guidelines. In one case, four children had to be taken into care after their mother was jailed for 28

days for a poll tax debt. In the last 12 months the High Court has ordered the freeing of over 100 people

wrongly jailed by magistrates. In February this year, concerned by the record rise in the prison population and adverse publicity about the imprisonment of people living in pover-ty for debt, the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, announced a review of the powers under which they are jailed. He was examining the use of

electronic tags to enforce house arrest, community service or supervised payments as alternatives to custody. Mr Howard pressed jails - and that once defaulters are imprisoned the fine is wiped out.

But yesterday Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said: "The Home Secretary's initiative announced last February appar-

ently is not yet off the ground."
"The use of debtors' jail is an unnecessary and brutal use of resources. The cost of jailing one defendant can be prohibitive and could include prison service costs of £500, prosecution war-rant and administrative costs of £800 and a further £700 if children were placed in care. At a minimum, therefore, it is costing at least £22m per year to incarcerate defaulters." Napo has detailed 18 defaulters' cases, involving "hardship, debt, misery

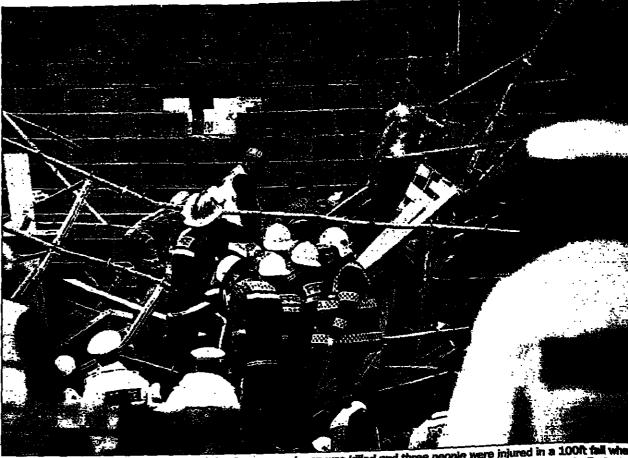
and wrongful imprisonment" They include the case of a 42were often illegally exceeding said he shared concerns that too year-old woman with a history of a person's ability to pay.

of psychiatric illness, who fell be-hind with her £1,300 fines for motoring offences. She was sentenced to jail in her absence and arrested on the psy-chiatric ward of a local hospital.

A second was a single mother of two young children, suffering cervical cancer, who was fined for shoplifting nappies. She was jailed for seven days when she could not pay the fine. Another was a 20-year-old

unemployed man who was fined £150 for underpaying £1.20 of his bus fare. He was jailed when he could not pay the fine. The Bill, if enacted, would outlaw the use of jail for fine default if the original offence did not merit a sentence of

imprisonment and would ensure reports including details of income were provided to magistrates. It would also remove the legal test of "culpable neglect" to pay a debt - because it relies upon a subjective test



Rescuers helping victims and clearing debris after one workman was killed and three people were injured in a 100ft fall when scaffolding collapsed at an office development site yesterday. Around 130 people were working on Edinburgh's Exchange Plaza on the city's Lothian Road. The dead man was named as Thomas Dolan, 48, of Airdrie



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--- she said. "When I realised the

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Man named in robbery and rape inquiry

JAMES CUSICK

A spree of armed robberies, rape, sexual assault and car thefts is believed to have been carried out by a conman who has evaded manhunts by five English police forces, detectives said yesterday

Police took the unusual step of naming and issuing a photograph of the man they want to question for the crimes - Rodney Michael Smith, who is regarded as "very dangerous".

Detective Inspector Richard Bell, of the Metropolitan Police, said his biggest fear was that Mr Smith's alleged armed violence could escalate into a serious confrontation with police. The safety of the public, he

said, was the motivation behind releasing details of the 30-yearold from Grays, in Essex, who also calls himself Luke Smith. A reward of £10,000 has been offered for information which leads to an arrest.

Police fear Mr Smith may also have a death wish having witnessed the suicide of a friend who shot himself after a do-

mestic dispute last year. Locating Mr Smith, who is 5ft 10in tall and speaks with a London accent, has clearly been a problem for police in London, Thames Valley, Surrey, Sussex and Essex. Without any disguise, he has apparently been able to come in and out of London and openly to use stolen vehicles

without police tracking him.

The alleged spree started on 4 April when a 32-year-old lemale croupier in a hotel in Mayfair, central London, was abducted at gunpoint, made to drive her own car to a bank cash dispenser and withdraw £200. She was then forced to go to a flat in east London, was raped

and abandoned. Two days later a Ford Granada was stolen in Hornchurch,

tricked his way into the room of a 36-year-old woman in a ceatral London hotel, forced her to strip at gunpoint and then stoke jewellery and cash. As he ran out of the hotel he threatened

security staff with the gun. On 17 April in Ilford the female driver of a Toyota MR2 was threatened with a gun and had the car and some jewellery stolen. He is still thought to be driving the car, registration 1478 NUE. The next day at a car park in Henley-on-Thames. Oxfordshire, a 59-year-old woman was threatened with a gun, punched

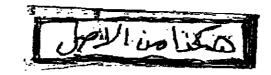


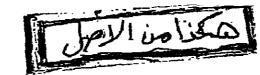
in the face and forced to hand over jewellery.

Five days later in Hertfordshire a man using the name Luke pulled a gun on a woman after responding to an advertisement offering a Cartier wristwatch for sale for £7,000. He took the watch and other jewellery and drove off in a dark blue sports car.

Police also want to question Mr Smith in relation to two other armed robberies on 14 and 16 April. He was last seen in Brighton on 1 May and is also Essex, by a man using the name known to have visited Man-Luke. On 15 April a man chester and the West Country.

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Report blames poor reading on teacher training

מפטנ אזופענ Education Editor

Trendy teaching methods are to blame for poor reading stan-dards in inner-city schools, says a report from school inspectors published yesterday.

Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, said the report on the London bor-oughs of Islington, Southwark and Tower Hamlets showed that teachers were committed to teaching reading by methods that were clearly not working. She announced plans for

performance league tables for teacher training colleges and to give inspectors powers to carry out their own tests in poor

Inspectors from the Office for Standards in Education and the three authorities tested six- and seven-year-olds and 10- and 11year-olds in 45 schools, all with higher than average numbers of pupils from poor backgrounds. Around 80 per cent of seven-

year-olds had reading ages be-low their chronological age. Teaching was weak in about a

Black African pupils performed best and disadvantaged white pupils worst.
In one in three schools the

headteachers failed to ensure that reading was well taught. The report says: "The wide gulf in pupils' performance is ... un-acceptable. Some schools and pupils are doing well against the odds while others in similar circumstances are not."

Teacher training, inspectors say, is partly to blame. "On the evidence of what is happening in these three authorities, the message for the initial and inservice training of teachers is very clear: primary teachers must be taught to teach read-ing far more effectively."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers

year-olds and four out of ten 11- said: "All the blame is being year-olds had reading ages be- placed on trendy teachers. Yet the report itself identifies other contributing factors. These include English not being the first language; high levels of so-cial disadvantage; poor man-agement; poor initial training;

lack of in-service training."
The three Labour-controlled authorities have accused Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, of altering the report for political reasons

Mr Woodhead said: "If it is political to want to do something towards raising educa-tional standards in inner-city schools. Then so be it. I plead



Paper history: Famous wallpaper designs by William Morris at the Victoria and Albert Museum, west London, part of a major retrospective of the artist's work - to mark the centenary of his death - which runs until 1 September

How do children learn to read

honics involves children learning to sound out words so that they understand how they are made up. Children copy their teacher in sounding out individual letters. They may also be taught to sound

Out the constituent parts of words.

Dismissed by many in the Eighties as old-fashioned, phonics has recently been restored to favour after research showed that children's sensitivity to sounds was a crucial factor in helping them learn to read. Studies also show that young children who know a large number of nursery rhymes, who can hear that "cat" is made up of "c" and "at" are the first children to learn to read.

The "look-and-say" method is also used by teachers; children repeat words without breaking them down. Pupils are required to memorise the shape of words and teachers may hold up flashcards containing a single word to help them do so.

The "real-books" approach is based on the idea that children will

a single word to help them do so.

The "real-books" approach is based on the idea that children will pick up reading by being offered mainstream story and picture books. It was introduced as an alternative to reading schemes – books written as teaching aids – which teachers argued often had boring stories. The aim of "real books" was to promote excitement and interest. Most teachers say they favour a mixture of methods. The report suggests that some teachers are too haphazard in their use of them and that teachers need to have a systematic strategy for teaching reading of which phonics is a carefully planned part.

Church moves to accept IVF

ANDREW BROWN Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of Scotland should soften its opposition to embryo experimentation, according to a report to its general assembly.

A study by the church's board for social responsibility reaffirms the church's opposition to surrogate motherhood. But it allows in vitro fertilisation herween couples, and said a blanket ban cannot be maintained and that embryo exper-

imentation should be accepted. The church, in allowing IVF within the marriage relationship while ruling out embryo research, was accepting the benefits of IVF while condemning the means used to achieve

them," the report says. All other forms of fertility treatment have been ruled out by the report, which also argues that married couples should have priority in the queue for infertility treatment over

unmarried couples. The report also argues that

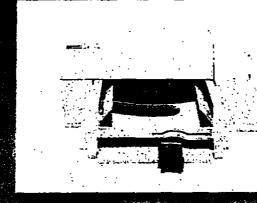
gay couples, or single people, should not be offered treatment. We do not deny the capacity of people of homosexual orientation or single parents to raise children with loving concern, but we believe it is important for children to have role

models of both sexes." This last clause has been giv en sudden topicality by the discovery of a two-year-old boy outside Glasgow who lives with two leshians and regards two gay men living up the road as his fa-thers. One of them is his natural father by one of the women.

The Rev Bill Wallace, convenor of the board, said: "I think the thing's a bizarre absurdity I feel extremely concerned about the child."

The Rev Richard Kirker, of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, said: "I would feel much more concerned about the child if it had no parents or one parent. I can't see a clear reason for restricting the choice that some lesbian or gay people might wish to exercise."





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Care for the elderly: Insurance for long-term care safeguards middle England's inheritance

Pension deal aims to protect assets

The Government yesterday moved to belp "middle England" protect its inheritance from the costs of long-term care by proposing new "partnership" schemes which could let individuals keep £1.50 of their assets – including their homes – for every £1 of insur-

ance cover they buy themselves. Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, claimed the deal offered a new partnership between the state, elderly people and their families, while retaining a safety net.

But it was condemned by Harriet Harman, his Labour op-posite number, as "a betrayal" of the generation which believed they would be offered care "from cradle to grave".

By contrast - and to the delight of the Conservatives who claimed Labour's front bench were at loggerheads - Chris Smith, Labour's social security spokesman, said he had no objection to the basic idea of insurance, but warned the majority of people would not be able to afford the premiums. In a separate speech yesterday, he declared that individuals had a responsibility to make provision for the times when they could

not support themselves.

The package was given a warm welcome by private insurers such as Bupa who pre-dicted that half a million people among the 10 million or so pensioners could take out cover

during the next five years. But while others, including make the latter attractive, Peter Murray of the National As-Pension Funds, supported the sociation of Pension Funds, ideas as "useful", Paul Sey-said, although it could provide mour, chairman of the Continuing Care Conference, an save for bigger pensions. some of these, he said.

Leading article, page 14 ** Wir Smith's sharp departure

groups for the elderly, warned that at most 30 per cent of those retiring might benefit.

That figure, he said, "may well be on the high side" and de-pended on good equity release schemes being developed to allow people to use the capital in their home to buy protection. Without that, the figure would be far lower, perhaps 10 to 15 per cent, he said. Those to gain would be in the middle, he said - rather than the less welloff who would be unable to afford the premiums, and those with assets above £150,000 who were reasonably well served by existing products.

Mr Dorrell's three-part package would allow individuals to add £1.50 for each £1 of insurance cover they buy to the existing £10,000 of assets they can keep when entering meanstested nursing or residential care. Someone buying £30,000 of protection - which might cost a one-off premium of £5,000 would keep £45,000 plus the existing £10,000.

A second option - which would cost the taxpayer less would be £1 for £1, but with £15,000 of capital protected on

Ministers will also consult on making it easier to buy an annuity covering all or part of the cost as people enter care homes, and on making pension pay-ments more flexible. Individuals would then be able to trade a lower pension in the early years for a larger one later. Only around 10 per cent of pension-ers have sufficient income to ter Murray of the National Asincentives for younger people to

Alming for office: Chris Smith launching Labour social security plans at Westminster Photograph: Tony Buckingham

Labour to cut benefit bill with 'welfare-to-work' packages

NICHOLAS TIMMINS

Plans to cut social security spending by replacing the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps) and launching a package of "welfare-to-work" sures were trailed yesterday by Chris Smith, Labour's social security spokesman. A measure of Labour's suc-

cess in government, he said. would be how far it cut social security spending, rather than raising it, by getting people off benefit and into work.

And while the state had to remain the guarantor and the regulator of social security provision, including pensions, it had to be only the administrator of

from traditional Labour approach of the 1970s and 1980s comes hot on the heels of the shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown's warning that Labour could scrap child benefit for children aged over 16 from well-off families.

Mr Brown's plan yesterday continued to provoke opposition within the Shadow Cabinet. Joan Lestor, spokeswoman on overseas development, wrote to the shadow Chancellor to express her anger. Those close to her said a number of other senior Labour MPs were also raising objections.

New Labour's thinking but the awould be "in the panth and a benefits system was revealed in socialist heroes".

which the Government sets in order to enable citizens to achieve security; it is not a particular mechanism per se for de-livering that security." He said it was "absurd" for

the left to regard how much it spent on social security as "a dee of virtue" "It isn't a mark of progressive

success if you are spending more and more on a benefit system." If that were the case, Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, whose govern-ment had doubled the numbers dependent on state benefits,

cial security". The test for Labour would be how well it spent the resources available. He coupled that with a warn-

ing that individuals have "a responsibility to make provision in our own lives for those times when we can't earn and support ourselves". That implied private provision, with Mr Smith expected to propose that Serps be replaced by second pensions paid from investments

Despite the message that Labour wants to cut welfare spending, Mr Smith pledged: "Labour won't ighore poverty in a lecture to the left-of-centre inRather it was "a mark of suctive of Public Policy Recess if you can help people to has done. We will want to put search. He said: "The welfare" move off benefit and into work it high on our agenda."

Commons resist moves to be cut down to size

House should be cut by for its 'health' Privatised post would be 'efficient'

With the predictability of turkeys refusing to vote for Christmas, member of the House of Commons yesterday shouted down a proposal to cut their numbers from the present 651 to 500.

Spencer Batiste, Tory MP for Elmet, had wanted his reformist Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill put to a vote. But when deputy speaker Dame Janet Fookes, asked if Mr Batiste had leave to introduce the Bill, the shout of "No" was so overwhelming she

judged a division to be pointless. Mr Batiste acknowledged that, even after retirements, a reduction of nearly 30 per cent in the number of MPs would mean redundancies. But he said the change was "vital to the health of the mother of Parlia-

"There is a need for constitutional reform. It should start here in the House of Com-

There had been a slow but inexorable rise in the number of MPs from 620 in 1950 to the current 651, he explained. Boundary changes would add another eight members after the general election.

Yet the United States, with five times the UK's population, manages with 100 senators and 435 members of the House of twice the UK population, has 511 MPs while in Europe only German has more legislators three more than the UK but with 23 million more people.

Mr Batiste said a reduction would be a signal of MPs' commitment to productivity and an example of how to achieve it. There would be a saving for the taxpayer, land could be sold instead of providing more office space, and there would be more opportunity for MPs to get into debates.

Last but not least: "Perhaps the electorate would be a little less cynical about MPs' pay if we accepted for ourselves the redancies that elsewhere have underphined non-inflationary

Inside **Parliament** Stephen Goodwin

idea of cuts, the member who spoke against the 10-minute rule Bill - only one MP is allowed to did so on the grounds that it

did not go far enough.

John Butcher, Conservative MP for Coventry SW, thought about 300 MPs was appropriate. The slimmed-down House would produce less "clutter and ephemera" he said, but there was also an animal welfare argument.

When free-roaming mammals are crowded together in artificial circumstances, it often produces some pretty unhealthy by-products. It is my judgement that this House is getting more and more fevered and therefore demands a culling programme." Mr Butcher announced some 18 months ago that he is retiring at the gener-

John Major had earlier made no attempt to deny reports that the Conservative manifesto for the election will include a pledge to privatise the Post Of-

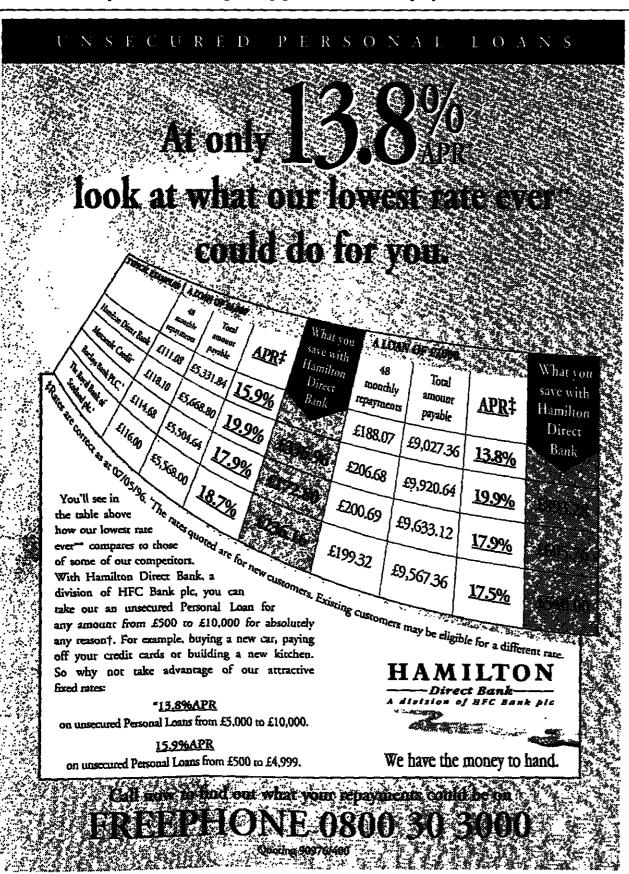
Challenged by Tony Blair at Question Time, the Prime Minister said it was "astonishing" that the Labour leader appeared not to know that many rural post offices were already

in private hands. But he went on: "I can confirm that we are looking to make sure the Post Office gives customers the efficient and effec-

tive service they deserve." A previous attempt to sell-off of the Post Office crumbled two years ago in the face of a vociferous minority of Conservatives with rural seats.

... Mr Blair said the Conservatives "obsession" with privatising public services was one humiliation last Thursday.

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Massacre at Qana: As UN investigation draws to a close, diplomats warn 'finger-pointing' would jeopardise fragile ceasefire

Massacre at Qana: As UN investigation draws to a US poised to deflect US poised to deflect of Israel criticism of Israel

DAVID USBORNE

While the United Nations Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, prepared last night to take the wraps off an investigation into the attack last month on a UN camp in southern Lebanon, the United States warned that it would not tolerate an exercise in finger-pointing at Israel

With tensions running high in New York, Mr Boutros-Ghali was expected to tell the Secu-rity Council that his inquiry into the shelling of the camp, which left some 100 Lebanese civilians dead, still pointed in the direction of a deliberate act by Israel's defence forces. He was likely to concede, however, that proving the allegation definilively may never be possible.

Lebanon, meanwhile, requested an emergency meeting of the Arab Group of nations at the UN to consider issuing a fresh demand for compensation from Israel for the deaths at the camp and other destruction

wrought during Israel's Grapes of Wrath military campaign. The US Ambassador to the UN, Madeleine Albright, was preparing an attempt to forestall any discussion in the Security Council highlighting the suspicion that Israel knew what it was doing when it sent shells crashing into the UN camp that was the headquarters of a battalion

rather than being used as a learning process of what hap-pened at Qana, the report will be the basis of a fingerpointing exercise in the direc-tion of Israel," an American diplomatic source comment-ed. "If it is used simply to apportion blame, then we are come on.

afraid that it will inflame passions on both sides. That would not be helpful."

The US mission in New York is also sceptical that the evi-

ple Rates

full details

rom

tention on the part of the Israeli forces. In particular, US diplomats cast doubt on the significance of the presence of a pilotless reconnaissance aircraft in the area at the time of

The role of the aircraft, also known as a drone, was revealed in a video tape taken by a peace-keeper on the ground that was obtained by the *Inde-*pendent earlier this week.

The premise of the report is that the drone let the Israelis know that there were civilians in the camp at the time of the shelling," the US source said. "But it is not clear to us that it was in fact directly over the camp at the exact moment of the attack."

Even as late as yesterday morning, Mr Boutros-Ghali was sifting through both the conclusions of General Van Kappen and quantities of new material provided at the eleventh hour by the Israeli government. A final submission to the UN was delivered to its New York headquarters by General Dan Harel, who commands the artillery branch of the Israeli defence forces, late yesterday morning. On Monday, Gener-al Harel claimed in New York that shelling of the camp bad been a mistake and "absolutely not deliberate".

of Fijian peace-keepers. A senior UN source insisted "Unfortunately, it seems that last night that it was impossible to prove Israel's culpability in the affair. However, even with the new material from General Harel, it was still hard to swallow that the Israeli forces could have blundered so badly. "It is difficult to believe. They say that their maps were bad. Well,

Mr Boutros-Ghali had indicated to colleagues that he was determined to make the findings of his investigation public, regardless of appeals for caution dence collected by the UN's from some governments,

report, General Frank Van some uncertainty, however, Kappen, can reliably indicate innal draft of his report in written form to the Security Council

and the media.
Without a text on paper, the
Security Council will be unable
to take any formal action. But many diplomats were continuing to predict that whatever form the report takes, most Security Council members will prefer to restrict their response to a discussion, without seeking to take the affair any further, for fear of angering Israel and threatening the fragile ceasefire

in southern Lebanon. Silence on the part of the Council will not satisfy Arab remments. Egypt, the only Arab country with a seat on the Council, has already indicated that it would like the Council at

military advisor who drafted the notably the US. There was still least to make some pronouncement on what happened and on Israel's role in it.

Lebanese officials in New York said they were awaiting receipt of the report - and sending it to their government in Beirut - before making any official pronouncement.

It was clear, none the less, that Lebanon hopes the evidence implicating Israel is suf-ficiently strong to allow theuse of the report to press its request

for monetary compensation.

Confirming reports that
Hizbollah guerrillas had been ronning in and out of the Fijian camp at will to hide from Israeli fire, Sylvana Foa, the UN spokeswoman, came to the defence of the peace-keepers.
"Hizbollah fighters do not wear uniforms and they do not carry signs saying who they are."



Under pressure: Rabbis try to persuade Shimon Peres not to withdraw his troops from Hebron

IN BRIEF

Mengistu officials 'shot 59 dead'

Addis Ababa — Fifty-nine officials of the late Emperor Haile Selassie's Ethiopian government were ordered up against a prison wall and mowed down in a burst of gunfire, a retired warder said yesterday. "The officials were lined up against the stone wall. Vehicles parked nearby put their lights on. A whistle sounded twice and suddenly there was a volley of bullets," the witness said at a trial of 70 officials of the ousted government. "I was shot and passed out," the 57-year-old man said. The defendants are officials of President Mengistu Haile Mariam's government who are charged with committing genocide after deposing the emperor in 1974. AP

US envoy to investigate Hutu massacre

Bujumbura - A senior US human rights envoy was due to arrive in Burundi yesterday and is expected to investigate reports of a massacre of 235 Hutu civilians by the Tutsi-dominated army late last month. Western diplomats said the visit by John Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labour, underlined Washington's concern about the explosive situation in the country where rebels of the Hutn majority are waging a guerrilla war against the army.

Fruitfly threat to NZ economy

Wellington, -- A fruitfly outbreak in Auckland was a potential threat to New Zealand's economy which "we have to make sure we eradicate", the Finance Minister, Bill Birch, said

Referendum imminent in Western Sahara

United Nations - The UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is expected soon to recommend closing down voter registration for a long-delayed referendum on the future of Western Sahara while retaining some 240 UN military observers monitoring a ceasefire. Security Council sources said. The referendum had originally been set for January 1992 to decide whether the former Spanish colony should be incorporated into Morocco, which controls most of the territory, or become independent. Reuter

Australian convicted under Filipino child sex law

Olongapo — An Australian businessman yesterday became the first foreigner to be convicted under a Philippine law designed to crack down on paedophiles. Victor Keith Fitzgerald (right), from Darwin, was sentenced to between eight and 17 years in jail after being convicted under the 1992 Special Protection of Children Act by a court in Olongapo, north of



Stone wall hints at ancient civilisation

Anckland - A stone wall found in the middle of an uninhabited forest has sparked theories of a 2,000-year-old civilisation in New Zealand and links to South America. The "Kaimanawa Stone Wall", featuring hand-cut five-ton blocks, stands in the Kaimanawa State Forest, in the centre of New Zealand's North Island. AP

Nuclear waste 'gives Greenpeace the slip'

Rennes — The environmental group Greenpeace admitted on Iucsday that a cargo of nuclear waste bound for Germany had probably been spirited out of a French reprocessing plant under its nose. Greenpeace's Jean-Luc Thierry said the organisation was giving up its surveillance of the plant at La Hague in north-west giving up its surveillance of the plant at La Hague in highly France after a cat-and-mouse struggle, believing the highly radioactive cargo was already on its way to Germany. Reuter

Spain to reorganise intelligence services Madrid — The new conservative Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar promised yesterday to reorganise Spain's intelligence services, plagued by scandals ranging from a "dirty war" on Basque rebels to the bugging of King Juan Carlos's telephone.

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CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY London and PHIL REEVES

You could not have found a more graphic example of the reason the West still spies on Russia: a scientist had been arrested for allegedly smuggling more than two pounds of nuclear material out of the country - weapons-grade contraband, that could be used to make a bomb. The man worked in the once secret Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, and had - according to the Russian security services - invented a new way of making nuclear substances

Last night the report, published by Itar-Tass, was unconfirmed. If true, it will be the first time the Russians have admitted that weapons-grade fissile materials have been smuggled out of the country. It will also send a chill through every western security agency; for it is the scenario that they fear the most.

The story broke as both Moscow and London were yesterday keeping mum about the precise nature of Russia's spying accusations, but theories were coming as thick and fast as the traffic fumes that fill Moscow's streets. Britain and the West are as curious as ever about the contents of Russia's term covering a multitude of

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the advent of satellites have made spying "glasnost", western spying in Russia is believed to have increased, as agencies vied with one another to find out more about previously secret installations, people, and projects that they had been puzzling over for years. Much of that reservoir of information has been exhausted, but there are plenty of others. The Russians say the alleged British agent whom they are holding worked in a federal government office with

access to "political and defence

and strategic importance to

British intelligence" - a vague

largely redundant for gathering straightforward military intelligence. East and West can and do conduct detailed inspections of each other's installations, and are punctilious in honouring the provisions of the treaties. The Russians - and their western counterparts have all bent over backwards to show each other as much of their military hardware as possible and also to talk about military organisation and doctrine.

Arms control treaties and spy

It is therefore in the political and economic arena that cloakand-dagger spying still has a role. With an election looming, for instance, the Foreign Office

will have an appetite for polit- weapons, and extremely high ical information, including the and fast-flying aircraft are areas political and financial consequences of a Communist victory.

During the Cold War, the West devoted great attention to the Soviet economy - and assessing the resources it was pouring into the ability to wage a protracted war. The collapse of the Soviet economy has made that less crucial, although the exact strength of the Russian economy in certain areas remains of interest. One such area is that of revolutionary new technologies, where Russia, for all its economic problems. maintains islands of excellence. Deep-diving submarines like the modified Alfa class, beam

in which Russia still surprises western observers.

But the most sensitive area now is the fate of nuclear weapons and materials, and arms exports. In particular, it would be surprising if the CIA, MI6 and the Israelis were not taking a strong interest in Rus-sia's relationship with Iran, to whom it has sold several billion dollars' worth of weapons systems and diesel-electric submarines in the last few years. They will be watching closely the nuclear power plant that the Ira-nians are building at Bushehr, 470 miles south of Tehran, using Russian-supplied reactors.

riosity about an underground complex that the Russians have been building in the Ural mountains, under the gaze of western spy satellites. The project, hidden inside Yamantau mountain in the Beloretsk area, involved the creation of a huge complex. served by a railroad, a major road, and thousands of workers. Fears were raised that Russia

Following a period of unprecedented openness between East and West, there are many signs that Russia may, once again, be closing its doors. On 9 March a decree by President

was planning to manufacture

chemical and biological

Nor did they deny their cu- Yeltsin demanded the "improvement of the system of State secrets" Mikhail Barsukov, the head of the FSB - the Russian security service, which formulated the accusations against the man accused of passing information to the British and his alleged controllers - said not enough things were classified as state secrets.

In the past year, several British industrialists, academics and business people have been accused of espionage, while attempting to assess what help the Russians might need. "I was accused of being a Nato spy", said one man yesterday "I told them that so far I had seen nothing worth spying on."

Who's who in the world of I-spy

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

The work of the world's intelligence services is broadly similar but their areas of responsibility do not coincide. The Russian Federal Secu-

rity Service - Federal naya shizhba bezopasnosti, or FSB - still numbering an estimated 75,000 people - covers some of the areas of the British "Security Service" M15, which is responsible for counter-intelligence and counter-terrorism, and the Secret Intelligence Service, SIS, which spies abroad and is often known by its historic title, MI6.

The Security Service, headed by Stephen Lander, who took over from Stella Rimington just after Easter is based at Thames House, on Millbank in London: SIS, headed by David Spedding, is based across the Thames, at Vauxhall Cross.

Each of the British services numbers about 2,000 people, although the numbers are misleading as they also use many agents and informers who are not full-time employees. However some of the operations undertaken by the British SIS also fall under the purview of Russian military intelligence – GRU, the Main Intelligence Directorate, which has not di-

Although the British Intellience services shared a common origin, they were soon split and developed a different ethos and even, in some cases, a mutual hostility. Whereas SIS maintained a certain glamour through its association with the Foreign office, MI5's modus operandi is often portrayed as rather mundane, MI5 has no executive authority: if they catch anyone spying they report it to Special Branch.

Both services were founded in March 1909 as the Secret Service Bureau under the leadership of Captain Vernon Kell and Captain Mansfield Cumming (known as "C" - the origin of Ian Fleming's "M" in the James Bond spy-thrillers). In October 1909 functions were divided. Kell took responsibility for counter-espionage within the British Isles and "C" for gathering intelligence overseas.

The Russian security service is the heir of the Soviet "Committee for State Security" ~



No Stalin: Wiping lipstick from Boris Yeltsin's face

the KGB. At its height in the mid-1980s the KGB ran a network of some 400,000 agents in minished since the demise of the Russia and an army of 200,000 Chief Directorate (Foreign Intelligence) - the equivalent of SIS – numbered just 12,000. Immediately after the break-up of the Soviet Union at the end of 1991 the service was split up. The covert elements of the service were split into intelligence and counter-intelligence, mirroring its British counterpart. In March 1995 it was reunited under Colonel General - now Army General - Mikhail Barsukov, a Yeltsin ally.

of the hostage crisis at Budyen-

novsk last year, and security experts yesterday said the Russian demand for the expulsion of nine British diplomats might be an attempt to restore the FSB's reputation. Significantly, pres-sure for hard-line action came from the FSB and not from the Russian Foreign Ministry.

The reputation of an intelligence service is as important as its performance, and the British regarded of late. Their biggest embarrassment occurred in the 1960s when members of the Cambridge spy ring – Kim Phil-by, Anthony Burgess and Don-ald Maclean – were revealed as highly placed KGB agents. Sir Anthony Blunt and Roger Hol-

In contrast to the secretive nature of the British and Russian intelligence services, the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) maintains a relatively high profile. Headed by John Deutch, a former deputy Defense Secretary appointed by President Clinton a year ago, it has 28 separate intelligence bodies covering everything from political and economic to purely military intelligence, where it cometimes clashes with the the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), much like its British and Russian equivalents.

The total US intelligence biggest success was undoubtedly the overthrow of communism: its biggest embarrassment was the Bay of Pigs fiasco in 1961, when the CIA masterminded the landing of a small army of Cuban exiles on the south Cuban coast. The CIA's reputation has been damaged by two recent scandals. In 1994 it was discovered that veteran CIA of-ficer Aldrich Ames had been selling secrets to the former Soviet Union, and last year it Barsukov was held responsi-ble for the disastrous handling Guatemalan colonel had been on the CIA payroli.



Chief Reporter

gested that he substitute one word for another in his em-

bassy's statement on the MI6 spying scandal. It couldn't have happened in Smiley's day. A British agent had been caught spying "red-handed"; nine British diplomats had been earmarked for expulsion; the British government was formulating its usual tit-for-tat response. And here was the Independent, inside the Russian Embassy's diplomatic

headquarters, helping the offi-cial with his vocabulary. In 1989, the last time the gov-

ernments clashed over spying allegations, each expelling 11 diplomats, journalists were con-"I like it!" exclaimed the Russ- fronted by badly-suited heavies ing that the police shoo them away or lock them up.

Yesterday, the response was quite different. Instead of the old Siberian-style greeting, a cheerful official invited the Independent indoors for the translation of the latest information ministry fax from Moscow.

Number 15 Kensington Palace Gardens, is the wing of the Russian Federation Embassy at which all diplomatic ac-tivity takes place. Outside it is a grand stucco building in the Nash style, almost identical in grandeur to the dozen or so oth-

er embassies along the street. Inside, however, the word grandeur is redundant. Faded paintwork is matched only by officials had been "trying to rephones are made to look even older by Seventies-style dralon swivel chairs. To the right of the drab reception is a cavernous green-painted hall on whose walls are hung undistinguished

paintings in warped frames. Parked, or dumped, on the rear lawn is a battered Volvo. The official, as warm and professional in 1996 as any of his Western counterparts, begins to translate the statement, issued by Georgi Karsin of the department for public information and press. It explains why the Britons will be expelled, on the

Deputy Foreign Minister, and says that the British Embassy the Russian Federation".

At each step of the way the official checks and double checks his vocabulary and accepts one or two suggested improvements. Then he places an emphasis on what he and his colleagues inside the embassy hope; that they won't be sent home. Reading Mr Karsin's words, he continues: "We see our main task in these circumstances as doing everything

possible in order to avoid too

much emotional reaction and

hasty decision making which

could have a negative influence

orders of Sergei Krylov, the on state relationships between Britain and Russia which are developing very successfully."

Another senior official put it ious that this should not spoil things between our two countries. Things have come a long way between us and we value the relationship very much. But we could not ignore the activities of

the MI6 agent in Moscow."

Back outside, after more help and co-operation, one of the armed police officers who patrol the street expressed incredulity. "Blimey. They let you in on a day like this? Shows how much they've changed. In the old days they'd have had the guards out ... and your feet wouldn't have touched the floor."

This week in

MINDERNORM

This week and every week, Section Two has a new look, with more pages, new features, a daily radio column and an expanded listings section providing Britain's most comprehensive daily guide to going out.



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Kenew

I'von're we with Home In Bosnia: Carl Bildt attempts to neutralise hardline nationalists as the first war crimes trial for 50 years begins

UN front man wields weapon of willpower

"Boyish" is the word most frequently used to describe Carl Bildt, and "High Representative of what?" is the question most often asked about him. His looks - tall, blond, bespectacled - mask a ferocious intellect and energy; his employer - the world - suitably nebulous. The politicians well know that he is the front man for an impossi-

The High Representative is commanded by the European Union, the United Nations Security Council and the donor nations to implement the civilian side of the Dayton peace plan in Bosnia - more or less through sheer force of personality. That's true ... I don't have very many weapons," he said wryly in answer to charges that he is a soft touch. "My powers are lim-ited to political influence."

In the early days, I-For, the Nato implementation force, viewed his office with hostility (while exploiting the possibility of off-loading responsibility on to civilians), though relations swiftly improved and remain warm. Yet Mr Bildt, who is 49 but looks 10 years younger,

where the big guns of I-For failed. He persuaded the Bosnian government, for example, finally to release its prisoners of war by threatening to postpone a donor conference.

His efforts are now directed towards extinguishing the bard-line flame personified by Radovan Karadzic, the president of Republika Srpska indicted for war crimes and shunned by Mr Bildt and I-For. Mr Karadzic is the harking presence pervading all dealings with the Serb entity in Bosnia; he is subject to arrest by I-For, should they happen across him. Mr Bildt clearly hopes they

"He is poisoning the political atmosphere," Mr Bildt said in an interview in Banja Luka, where he has just opened an office, to Mr Karadzic's fury. "He is pushing isolationist poli-cies ... and fuelling more hardline views on the other side."

The nationalist, anti-Dayton line still coming out of Pale, the mountain village near Sarajevo that is Mr Karadzic's stronghold, is exacerbating mutual fears, Mr Bildt added. That increases the likelihood of the country coming apart even

Bosnia, despite his long-standing appointment with The Hague war crimes tribunal, "is a major provocation against the international community".

An arrest could be extremely bloody, however, given that Mr Karadzic travels with a phalanx of bodyguards, and 1-For commanders are loath to intervene. "The military guidelines are very clear," Mr Bildt said. He implied that he would like to see a change of policy from the Nato politicians who issue orders to I-For. There is a clear moral tone

to the High Representative's views, as well as a practical con-cern. Pursuing war criminals matters, he said. "I don't think you can establish a normal political life before that's done," he said, adding that the tribunal would face a "difficult balancing act" over how far to extend its indictments.

"How you draw that line will be tremendously important for this country," he said. "You must take away a sufficient number of people to establish justice but at the same time you must leave the war behind you." Mr Karadzic would disagree; so Mr Bildt is bolstering inter-

Carl Bildt: His looks mask a ferocious intellect and energy, but he is well aware he is 'the designated loser

The city is flooded with dignitaries at the moment, including John Kombhun, the US special envoy, whose predecessor forced through the Dayton agreement, and other foreign-ers urged to visit by Mr Bildt.

In Banja Luka, traditional political rival to Pale and home of Rajko Kasagic, the moderate Serb Prime Minister, Mr Bildt hopes to capitalise on the different perspective. "Some of them are genuinely willing to work within the Dayton framework," he said, while admitting that the peace plan was written

liberal interpretation, "Everyone is trying to twist the agree-ment to suit their long-term aims ... it has great potential to be twisted."

He seems particularly an-gered at the financial games be-ing played: the Serbs' refusal to and their rejection of a large seed-planting programme fund-ed by the EU. But there is also the refusal of the World Bank to extend a project granting 10 deutschmarks per month to needy families across the line from the government side.
"I think that humanitarian

programmes should apply to people in need everywhere, but the World Bank does not seem to share that view," he said acidly. The political point being, "if we go in here and start to cooperate with people they will find that productive and we will gradually break down the barriers of isolation". This is partly why Mr Bildt will be loath to use the one real weapon he has:

sanctions on Republika Srpska. Admiral Leighton Smith, Mr Bildt's military counterpart, not only had an easier task - the

the re-imposition of economic

tions - but a far bigger armoury Mr Bildt is supposed to rebuild Bosnia, to bring in foreign money, encourage refugees to return home and ensure that fair elections take place, aided by a (so far non-existent) free press.

It is not surprising, therefore that Mr Bildt has kept his position as chairman of the Swedish Conservatives and his homes in Stockholm and Brussels. Despite the energy and intellectual rigour with

which Mr Bildt pursues his as one analyst cynically put it.

more." The former psychia-trist's continuing presence in opening his Banja Luka office. in such a way that it is open to Serb stands accused of ethnic 'reign of terror' ANDREW KELLY of a systematic reign of terror aimed at driving Muslims and curred during "ethnic deansing" of the region. Tadic, a commitrevenge must not be satisfied at the well of polluted justice," Mr two years in fail awaiting a tricommitted by the defendant," the Dutch defence lawyer Michail Wladimiroff said. ted Serb nationalist, had visit-Wladimiroff said as he insisted



any part in atrocities

Dusko Tadic, the first person

The Hague — The Bosnian Serb defendant in the first international war crimes trial for 50 years had no role in the camps where he is alleged to have killed, raped and tortured Muslims and Croats, his lawyer said yesterday.

although they were places in which unspeakable crimes were Dusko Tadic: Denies taking committed, these crimes were

to face an international war crimes tribunal since the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials after the Second World War, is charged with crimes against non-Serbs at the Omarska, Keraterm and Trnopolje camps in "Although the camps existed, _ north-west Bosnia in 1992.

Earlier yesterday Australian prosecutor Grant Niemann accused Tadic of committing

Croats away so Serbs could claim the territory.
"The evidence of the prose-

cution will prove beyond reasonable doubt that the accused, Dusko Tadic, committed the crimes ... and that it was pursuant to a widespread or systematic attack against the non-Serb population of the Prijedor [area]," he said.

Mr Niemann said the trial would examine events of unspeakable horror which oc-

ed the three camps at will to kill and maltreat inmates, the prosecution alleged. Mr Niemann said the camp atrocities seemed to have been conducted with the tacit approval of the Yugoslav

The defence did not deny that Bosnian Muslims had suffered but said the defendant was the victim of the Muslims' desire to find a scapegoat. "The thirst for

national army and local Serb

paramilitary groups.

on a rigorously fair trial.

Presiding Judge Gabrielle
Kirk McDonald of the United States opened the sitting by stressing that Tadic's right to a fair trial was the "paramount purpose for being here".

The accused has always denied the charges. He was arrested in Germany in February 1994 after Bosnian refugees identified him as their tormentor. Since then he has spent over

al which is like to take several months. Over 100 witnesses will be called, some of whom will be giving evidence via satellite from Bosnia. The tribunal, created by the

Security Council in May 1993, marks the first attempt by the United Nations to enforce international treaties on the conduct of war and protection of

To date the tribunal has charged 57 people - 46 Serbs, eight Croats and three Muslims. I tance Committee.

France beats US in Third World aid

CHRISTINE TIERNEY

Paris - France may have overtaken the United States as the world's second-largest donor of aid to developing countries, Brian Atwood, administrator for the US Agency for International Development (Usaid), said yesterday, Japan is the leading First World donor.

*France may be number tw in gross terms, when the [1995] figures are finalised." Mr Atwood told a news briefing in Paris to discuss a new results-oriented aid strategy to be adopted by donor countries belonging to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). "They've fallen back" in

terms of aid, Mr Atwood said of the French, "but we've fall-en back further." He said the US aid budget had shrunk by more than 40 per cent since 1985, reflecting pressure to reduce government spending, and had been cut to around \$6.2bn (£4.1bn) from \$7bn for 1996.

He praised the resultsoriented strategy and said it was likely to increase not only the efficiency of development assistance but also raise incentives for donors to contribute.

Among the targets set in the plan are a 50 per cent reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, defined as those having an annual income of \$370 or less, and universal access to primary education for children by the year 2015.

Mr Atwood said the strategy for the first time sets targets for what we want to achieve in the the next 20 years. It moves away from talking about the input side of the equation to talk about output largets".

"The purpose of this is to create a political dynamic wherein the [aid] numbers will go up," he said. "If we don't do more to expand markets. industrial nations know the tensions among them will increase because we'll be going for a static part of the pie.

Mr Aiwood said the strategy would encourage donors to work more closely together to meet the jointly-agreed targets, which would be tracked by the OECD's Development Assis-

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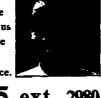
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European governments agreed yesterday to push forward rapidly with a series of measures to allow them to conduct joint military operations indepen-dently of Nato. Foreign and defence minis-

ters of the Western European Union, meeting in Birming-bam, reaffirmed plans to give the long-moribund defence body the capacity to conduct peace-keeping and humanitar-ian operations by the end of the year. The meeting of 27 governments - 10 full WEU members, plus observers, "associates" and "partners" - skirt-ed around the trickier questions of the body's longer-term po-

litical aims and development. At present the revivified WEU is a wife with two husbands: it acts as the European arm of Nato and, in an ill-defined way, as the security wing of the European Union. A number of European governments, led by Germany, would like to see the WEU fully absorbed into the EU as part of the present negotiations on reform of the Union treaties. Britain fiercely opposes such a step.

The French government took up an in-between position. It supported the British view that priority should be given to the practical moves agreed yester-day to equip the WEU with the intelligence, transport and command-and-control capacities to act independently of the USdominated Nato alliance. But the French Foreign Minister, Hervé de Charette, made it clear that Paris saw this as a first without threatening the pre-em-

has to be achieved in a step by step fashion, so that the WEU can first become a useful tool for European foreign policy."

Mr de Charette startled

British officials by proposing that the financing of the developments needed to create a fully-functioning WEU should be agreed at EU level. France has already said it wants WEU policy to be decided at EU summits. Both ideas go much further than the British government is prepared to tolerate.

must be foreign policy tool

states. He also rejected sugges-

ble". The US and European

troops in I-For had gone to

Bosnia together and would leave

But these differences were only hinted at yesterday: they are quarrels for the future. Other European governments are pleased that, within limits, Britain has been playing a positive role in the re-shaping of post-Soviet European security

Britain presides over the WEU for the first half of this year and has pushed forward a number of practical changes needed to allow the body to emerge from Nato's shadow afstage towards the creation of a ter nearly 50 years. The aim is defence policy within the EU, to make the WEU separable from Nato but not separate; in other words to develop a ca-"In the long term WEU will pacity for independent EuroImran prays for justice in Pakistan



makes time for prayer at his cancer hospital in Lahore after a tense period folk Union but the time has not yet come," he said. "Everything in situations in which the US with Nato, not the EU. | launch of his Justice Movement. The former Pakistan cricket captain, 43, has been recruiting mer in readiness for a challenge to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Photograph: Muzammil Pasha

India set · to be ruled by coalition

New Delhi

After the final round of voting in elections yesterday, polling officers today begin the task of counting over 330 million ballots to determine which of three main parties will govern India for the next five years.

No clear front-runner has emerged in these fiercely-con-tested parliamentary and state assembly elections. But early exit polls give the ruling Concess party a slight edge over the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and, in third place, the National Front-Left Front (NF-LF). It is doubtful that the Congress party of the Prime Minister, Narasimha Rao, will secure a majority of the 543 seats in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of parliament.

Election officials said voting in the third and last phase of the Indian elections passed smoothly in many states. But in Bihar. 15 people were killed and another 50 were injured in bomb blasts and shoot-outs between rival party supporters, So far, 39 people have died in Bihar dur-

ng electioneering.

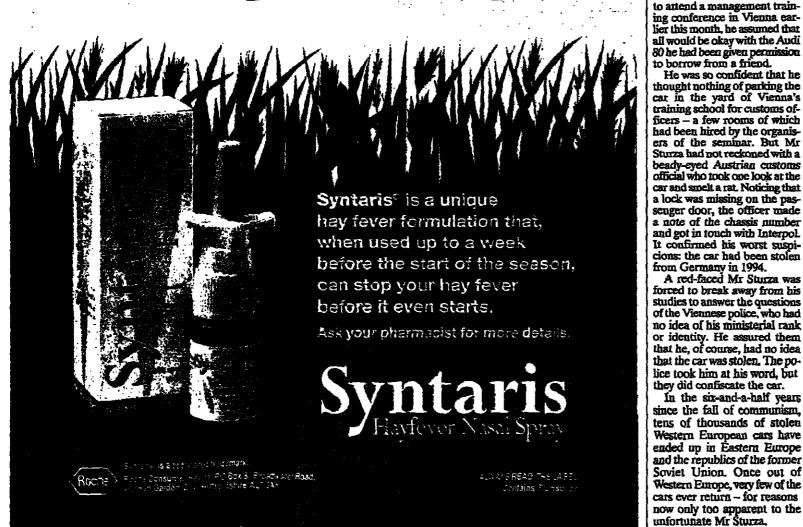
For the first time in seven years, Indians in the troubled Himalayan state of Jammu-Kashmir were allowed to vote in parliamentary and state asembly elections. But sabotage threats by Muslim separatists frightened off many voters, even in the predominately Hindu area of Jammu and in Leh. a mountainous region near Tibet whose inhabitants are mainly Buddhists. Polling in the turbulent Kashmir valley, where over 20,000 people have died in a six-year revolt against the Indian security forces, has been delayed until later this month.

Indian authorities claimed that Pakistani forces fired artillery shells into Kashmir yesterday to disrupt polling along their disputed border. Islamabad gives support to the Kashmiri insurgents.

In the north-eastern state of Manipur, where Indian security forces are fighting separatists, over a dozen bombs were set off to scare away voters. In communist-run West Bengal, where voter turnout at 75 per cent was the nation's highest, both the BJP and the Congress complained of "mas-

sive" vote-rigging. With many political experts predicting that India will face a hung parliament, some parties are already putting out feelers to possible coalition partners. The National Front-Left Front is reported to have made moves towards the Congress party but is said to be demanding that Mr Rao is ditched as leader - a condition that a senior Congress official said it had no intention of meeting.

STOP HAY FEVER BEFORE IT STARTS



Husband to 15 and lover to 54

Colombo (AP) - A man with 15 wives and 54 mistresses was iailed by a court in southern Sri Lanka after his latest wife complained that he was not faithful

to her, police said vesterday. "We have found eight wives so far. But he had seven other marriage certificates," said police inspector J. Hopitigala who is investigating how many

Minister's

journey of

discovery

Central Europe Correspondent As justice minister of the for mer Soviet republic of Moldova. Vasile Sturza should have known better. When he set off

ADRIAN BRIDGE

women Pavulupitiyage Guna-pala, 35, married in the past five years. Police found romantic letters from 54 other women when. Gunapala was arrested.

The unemployed man had posed as an army sergeant, and changed his name several times to woo the women, who ranged from 18 to 60 years of age. He usually stayed with a wife

ing all her money and jewels, said Insp Hopitigala. Gunapala was arrested after the last woman he married

complained to police that he was having an affair. Police found that he had married her after fleeing five arrest warrants



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Westminste the rotal show

"the fold an age

The Spitfire is a mirror in which we see our national character, says Jonathan Glancey

Brilliant but flawed

Driving out west from London on the A40, I know the point where I am most likely to prang my latest Jag. Out of the sun – the road runs due west – a Spittire Mk Ia in Battle of Britain camouflage appears to burst over the roof of an Art Deco factory. This Spitfire is no more than a full-scale replica bolted on top of a tower. But, real or not, the profile of a Spitfire never fails to stir. At the weekend, two dozen of the Second World War fighters gathered at Duxford aerodrome, Cambridgeshire, to celebrate the plane's 60th anniversary.

The Spitfire remains one of the most beautiful machines ever made. And it is as glorious to fly as its shape, and history, suggests. I am prejudiced - Spittires are in my blood. My late father, my Uncle Jack and others of my family fought in the RAF during the Second World War. Flying a Spit-fire is like skiing, but in the clouds rather than the snow. Those elliptical wings, beaten expensively and timeconsumingly from aluminium, enable the plane to pirouette in the air as gracefully as Darcy Bussell on stage.

Flying a Spitfire today is an experience laced with a heady mix of nostalgia, whimsy and sadness. The nostalgia is for an England gone by. This is not nostalgia for a heritage land of leather-on-willow, warm beer and sunlit uplands, the nonsense that politicians trot out when Britain is, as far as the pilot's eye can see, a land of superstores, fast-food joints, leisure

The Spitfire is moving not simply because it is beautiful. It marks the 20th century high point for a specifically British spirit. This machine is a mirror, albeit a romantic one. In it we see ourselves and our history: brilliant but flawed. The creation of the Spitfire was one of the high points of British design, engineering and manufacturing; a time when British manpower and technology was directed to building a better Europe. The Spitfire wheeling in the sky spelt liberation to those in the Nazi occupied streets and fields below. The plane was Britain's standard bearer, leading it into a bigger and, hopefully, brighter world. How different we are being encouraged

to feel about Europe today.
The plane was the apotheosis of the British make-and-do spirit. This country has long been good at cre-ating lovingly crafted, hand-forged beauty shoes and shirts, furniture and sports cars. The Spittire came, in part, from this tradition. And, yet, because British design so often is the stuff of gnarled craftsmen and misunderstood enthusiasts, lonely and eccentric spirits, it lacks the modern industrial drive needed to keep our industry (or, what's left of it) at the

cutting edge of the global market. The Spitfire was, as its critics enjoy pointing out, expensive (because time-consuming) to manufacture and repair. The shape that endowed it with timeless beauty was complex for factories to produce at

(Spitfires, in various guises, were made throughout the war and con-tinued to fly in Malaysia in front-line service with the RAF until 1954).

By contrast, the Hawker Hurricane, the workhorse of the wartime RAF, was easy to build (from timber and canvas), simple to maintain, and though slower and less agile than the Spitfire it was more able to keep flying when ripped up by German shells. For the record, Hurricane pilots shot down more of the enemy over Kent in the summer of 1940 than the Spitfire boys. Yet it was the spirit of the Spitfire that endured - individualistic, wilful,

glamorous, romantic - in such postwar products as the Jaguar cars of Sir William Lyons and Malcolm Sayers (even in their shapes and the configurations of their lusty engines), in such quixotic designs as the TSR2 fighter-bomber (scrapped in development by the 1964-70 Labour government of Harold Wil-son) and, of course, Concorde. The spirit of the Spitfire is deeply embedded in our culture, a machine that somehow speaks of cricket, the sonnets of Keats, freedom from entrapment and, most of all, a desire to do things our own way.

The closest thing to a Spitfire these days is some makes of Jaguar. The Jaguar competes with BMW and Mercedes Benz. Much of the character of that commercial battle can be divined from the earlier con-

test between the Spitfire and its deadliest rivals, the Messerschmitt 109 and the Focke-Wulf Fw190.

Magnificently engineered, easy to make and maintain the German nes were technologically superior to British rivals which had been cobbled together on a shoestring. Yes, the Germans lost the Second World War, despite their Focke-Wulfs and Messerschmitts, but the industrial spirit that informed these machines

helped Germany win the economic battles that followed Hitler's fall. The Spitfire's other rivals, friend and foe, were also products of industrial systems and economies that

were to make Britain look poor 20 years after her success in battle. That success had owed far more to the highly organised industrial might of the United States than to any act of individual bravery by Spitfire pilots. The Spitfire helped fight the propaganda battle, but the war would have been lost without the influx of such brilliant mass-produced planes

as the North American Mustang. Based on the Spitfire, the Mustang developed into a furiously fast, agile aerial gun-platform; later the roles were reversed and Spitfires were shaped around the P51-D Mustang. What the American war machine brought to bear on the war with Germany and Japan was Henry Ford's conveyor belts and an ability to run a war machine as no nation had done before. In the Fifties, the US economy benefited enormously from this productive power.

The mainstay of Japanese imperial air power was the Mitsubishi Zero, the carrier-borne fighter that entered Allied vocabulary after the attack on Pearl Harbour. Based on American prototypes the Zero was a sturdy, reliable plane that displayed the Japanese brilliance at copying and developing foreign products to

subishi is the world's biggest manufacturing corporation and Supermarine, makers of the Spitfire, is history. And yet ... as one surfs the clouds in a Spitfire, sending the balletic machine twisting and growling, only the intoxication and dazzling beauty matter. You cannot fly a desk. We are in awe of this plane because it asks us a question about ourselves that we do not know the answer to. It is a question we ask ourselves now. again, in relation to Europe. Perhaps we are flawed, not made for the modern age; but it is only our inde-

Photograph: Hulton Getty





Manufacturer: Supermarine, Southampton Engine: Rolls-Royce Merlin 61 Top Speed (at operational height): 408 mph Operational Weight: 7500lbs Ceiling (feet): 42,500

Armament: two 20mm cannons, four 303 machine-guns, 1,000lb external bomb load. Range: 660 miles

The Mk IX was hastily assembled with the new Merlin 61 engine to counter the threat of the superior Focke-Wulf 190. The Battle of Britain elevated the Spitfire into a legend. On paper it was less formidable than its record suggested, but British and Commonwealth pilots loved the plane, often comparing it to a perfectly-fitting piece of clothing. It did not have the Messerschmitt's manoeuvrability but its wing shape proved decisive in allowing pilots to roll their way out of danger.





Manufacturer: Messerschmitt, Augsburg Engine: Daimler Benz 601 or 605 series Top Speed (at operational height): 387mph Operational Weight: 7500lbs Ceiling (feet): 38,500

Armament: Two 13mm machine-guns, three 20mm cannon. Later equipped to carry bombs and mortars.

The defeat of the earlier model 109E at the Battle of Britain may have come about because the plane had to fight at the end of its range. Germany's flying aces stuck with the 109 even after superior models were introduced. The plane was difficult at take-off and landing because of its narrow-track undercarriage, leading to a high casualty rate among trainee pilots. It was adapted in response to American daylight bombing, providing top cover while the heavier FW190s attacked the bombers.





Engine: Nakajima Sakae ("Prosperity") 12 Top Speed: (at operational height) 316 mph Operational Weight: 5,313lbs

Ceiling (feet): 33,790 Armament: two 20mm cannon, two 7.7mm machine-guns, 264lbs bomb load. Range: 1940 miles

The Zero shocked allied pilots and commanders when it first appeared in 1941. It was light enough to outmanoeuvre any allied plane, as Jiro Horikoshi's design dispensed with such details as pilot armour and self-sealing fuel tanks. However, by 1943 it had been outclassed. But the overstretched Japanese kept the Zero in use to the end of the war, and the planes that brought victory at Pearl Harbour became fit for little more than smashing Kamikaze pilots into the decks of US warships.





Manufacturer: North American Inc., Los Angeles Engine: Packard Metlin V-1650 Top Speed (at operational height): 437mph Operational Weight: 11,600lbs

Ceiling (feet): 41,900 Armament: six 50-calibre, wing-mounted machine-guns. External bomb load 2,000lbs.

Range: 1,300 miles
The North American PSI was built in co-operation with Britain. The Mk1, brought into use by mid-1942, was well-suited to low-altitude flying. The P51D, "the Cadillac of the skies", was an adaptation that filled the need for a high-altitude escort fighter. It was heavy and had a good range compared with other models. It was the foremost aircraft from mid-1944 until the end of the war. North Korean gun emplacements in the Fifties proved that the Mustang had finally had its day. Research by Ben Stummers

The Westminster Eight roadshow

Any hopes John Major might have of a pre-election truce with the Euro-sceptics are about to be shattered. The "beroes and heroines" (their words, needless to say) of the Conservative party, including Teresa Gorman (below), Sir Teddy Taylor, Tony Marlow and others, have restyled themselves with a heavy whiff of martyrdom "the Westminster Eight" and are holding a number of "Save Our Currency" meetings.

An invitation to a meeting in Chester next month claims that "these are the heroes and heroines who stood up to the vernment's bullying on Europe and were punished by having the



m your house

whip removed". It adds, lest we think the event will be merely a piece of oldfashioned, healthy democratic debate in which all sides

have a healthy, old-fashioned democratic respect for each other: "Save Our Currency invite you to hear the Euro-sceptics' side of the argument to balance the ceaseless drivel churned out by ... Kenneth Clarke

and others ...". Just in case anyone in the Government still thinks there might be a united front harking there somewhere, one of the Westminster Eight, Christopher Gill, will be launching a new book today. In Their Own Words, full of quotes "that reveal the deceitfulness that has gone on throughout our membership of the EU".

Anybody for a coffin you can fold away?

Macabre tales of innovation from Zimbabwe, where the latest growth indus-try is ... the coffin, Roadside coffin sales, I learn, are the latest thing; and one bright entrepreneur has spotted a market for frugal ingenuity: the collapsible coffin. Handy to transport to isolated villages, the canvas-covered wooden frame folds up like a deckchair and fits neatly into a briefcase-sized bag.

A prudent investment. After all, in the words of the accompanying adver-tisment - one to make Saatchi & Saatchi eat their hearts out - "You bury your dead, not your future."

Soaraway BA flops with its staff

I must hand it to British Airways News, the in-house journal of our national air-

line. It won't let loyalty get in the way of a good story. On the back page of the new issue is an employee opinion survey. It says that "only around 50 per cent of people are

satisfied with the level of involvement and opportunity to use initiative. Furthermore only approximately a third of employees feel that British Airways is open and honest in its internal dealing with them." When even your own employees are

unimpressed with your honesty and openness, it takes a brave man or woman to reveal that to the world. Small wonder the intrepid British Airways News hack merely signs him or herself "News Reporter"



And all for rather more than three tenners

A breathless press release reactes me about the Three fenors concert at Wembley in July Thought he exent has not seld out, the promoters have found? a further fold sear at Wembley, so it can now be worked by found? a further fold sear at Wembley, so it can now be worked by found? a further fold sear at Wembley so it can now be worked by \$5000 people — one pearon per 1,000 and of the nature population, the promoters manyed our additive over than work women's hockey at the same promoters manyed our additive fewer than work women's hockey at the same yenus, to just it another may The Wembley show is planned to be the last one together he blesses Payarotti. Domingo and Carerras, and a same at 25 one together he begins who want to reselve the consiste and my VIP seats, I to 2001 for those who want to reselve the consiste and my VIP seats, I discovered extending what that that animals, for a meas 250, you not only get to see the show, plut not only get a meal afterwards graced by the big three, but you also, want for it, see the particip.

After the Knowledge, time for charm school

Now that New York cab drivers are reportedly having courses in charm -beginning with 50 courteous phrases, from the most elementary "thank you" to "I'm sorry if you think I am driving too fast, sir," I inquired whether our own "only speak when I'm spoken to" Hackney carriage drivers have similar instruction. I'm told there is no formal courtesy training, but they are judged on "temperament" by examiners at the Public Carriage Office when they take the Knowledge. A pleasing temperament translates into street parlance as:
"I thought this route would cut out traf-fic, gov."

Sorry Ringo, the joke's on you

My selection yesterday from the current round of jokes in the music industry vilifying drummers has prompted a reader of a certain vintage to remind me that

there was an earlier butt of such jokes before Ginger Baker, late of the supergroup Cream (What Ginger Baker and cancoffee teen have in common? They're both awful without cream.) Ringo Starr, it seems, was the first target of these

jibes, back in the Sixties. For example: "OK, I admit he's not the best drummer in the world." "Come off it, he's not even the best drummer in the Beatles.

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EDITOR: Charles Wilson

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Dorrell steps in the right direction

in old age, bills for long-term care can leave the prudent and the well-off in the same financial boat at the ends of their lives as the spendthrifts and the poor. Middle England is displeased - and it is

grumbling to its politicians.

The Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, could offer little yesterday to protect his party from the damaging political fallout of all the disappointed expectations raining down on the property-owning masses. But his proposals were nevertheless a promis-ing first step towards tackling an issue that will be evil politicians for a decade or more.

Long-term social care has always been means tested. But as the NHS withdraws from geriatric care, and as the number of home-owners grows, more and more pensioners are having to sell their houses to pay for care. Inheritances are being devoured by the wage bills of care homes. Disappointed inheritees may squeal but someone has to foot the bill. As a nation we have not saved enough in the past to enjoy today cascades of wealth across the generations, as well as low taxes. The current working population will have to pay for its elders' care somehow, whether through forfeiting inheritances or paying more tax. Unless younger generations start making additional provision their children will have to do the same in their

Mr Dorrell hopes that individuals will bear more of the burden themselves, through higher savings and taking out insurance earlier in their lives. For the current generation of elderly the government is suggesting a new partnership to pay the bill for care. (It sounds very like the kind of scheme new Labour should have come

up with but hasn't.) The state won't pick up the entire tab; that could cost us two pence on income tax each year. But nor will every individual with assets worth more than £16,000 be expected to fork out for the entire cost either - as most have to do at the moment, usually by selling their house. Under Mr Dorrell's plan, at retirement age, people would be able to buy insurance to cover a specified level of care. If you were to

As if death itself weren't leveller but your eventual bill overran, the state would still means test your ability to pay would still means test your ability to pay for the additional care. However, it would exclude £60,000 worth of your assets from the assessment. By buying your insurance you pay for your long-term care and protect at least a chunk of the inheritance hoped for by younger generations

> The details may vary in practice but the principle is right. There is at least one catch. For a start, the insurance market would need to become much more sophisticated. Senior citizens are asset rich and income poor. They would need to draw on the money tied up in their houses through equity-release schemes to pay the insurance premium. At the moment these equity-release schemes are completely inadequate. More important, the insurance premiums would be substantial especially for couples. Many people would not be able to afford them. The Government could end up spending taxpayers' money protecting the assets and inheritances of the wealthy, leaving the lower-middle classes behind.

Still, at least the Government is moving in the right direction. Unlike the Labour Party. The shadow health secretary, Harriet Harman, was quick to denounce the Government's proposals as a "betrayal" of elderly people who expected the state to provide for them. Yet delivering the state-funded care that senior citizens expect would cost a bomb something that sits uneasily with new Labour's fiscal prudence, and runs against Chris Smith's avowed aim of encouraging people to provide for themselves.

Massaging expectations downwards is an extremely difficult task - especially for a government that is already unpopular. Yet that is the task that will face this goverument and Labour if it takes power. Rather than opportunistically carping about the Government's attempts to find an innovative solution to a pressing prob-lem, Labour should itself be searching for an alternative: if not a public-private partnership, then a new social insurance scheme. Labour's trouble is that it still wants the luxury of behaving like an opposition without responsibility when it needs purchase insurance cover worth £60,000 to start behaving like a government.

Cleaning up after Clwyd

Clwyd's secrets are out in the open. Yesterday we published substantial extracts from the inquiry report into child abuse in North Wales and summarised its conclusions. The facts have now indelibly entered the public domain. The Welsh Office, the North Wales Police and the councils that have inherited Clwyd County Council's functions can no longer hide behind the excuse that this is an unpublished document. Truth, damning truth, is out. The judicial inquiry recommended in the report as the only way to draw guidance for the future management of social services departments must be drawn up. It may be utopian to hope that children in care will never again suffer an instance of abuse like this. But the chapters of failure set out in the Clwyd report should be the starting point for drawing up precautionary measures to make sure similar systematic abuse of young people in the state's care should never occur again.

Till now the Government's view, at least as expressed from Cardiff, seems to have

Nicholas Kenyon, Controller of Radio 3, is said to have got great

pleasure in his youth from surveying

the Radio 3 schedules. I know how he

I still sometimes get pleasure from

it. Most days I look down the list of

music to be played on Radio 3 and

talks to be talked, and I think: That

looks interesting, or, It would be nice to hear that again, or, Mel Smith's programmes on jazz are

always thought-provoking so I'll give that a go, and just as often I think, Oh

no, I hate that composer, or, Oh God

it's live opera all afternoon, give that

a miss, or. Hmm, perhaps I should give Liszt another try. But what I never do is think, Oh, I

like that presenter, I'll see what he has

to offer, or, I see Adrian Turntable is

presenting Rush Hour Muzak today-

Call me old-fashioned, but I turn

on for the music. Yet, to judge by

recent newspaper features on

Radio 3, it is only the presenters who matter. "Is Radio 3 going pop?"

they ask. Or. "Down market with

It always turns out, when you

inspect these post-mortems, that it is

not the music that is thought to be

going down-market, it is the presen-

ters. Out go stuffy old Radio 3

Radio 3?"

he's really dishy, I'll listen to him.

feels. I used to too.

been: this is a local difficulty which we already commissioned a lawyer to look at. This will no longer do. William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, is a young man with a bright political future ahead of him. Here is an occasion for him to prove his mettle. He must immediately, in conjunction with Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, appoint a figure of proven independence, protected by law, to inquire into Clwyd speedily, with the express goal of reaching

conclusions that may be of wider use. Much has been made of the way local authority management has improved. Not in Clwyd social services department it wasn't. The Association of Directors of Social Services, if it cares for its reputation, ought to be vocal in demanding a set of precepts for its members' use; it is unlikely Clwyd was so unusual that its derelictions of duty are not being repeated

The Welsh Office emerges from the report as complacent and slack. It must redeem itself by initiating an open and independent policy review.

MILES KINGTON

announcers, in comes Paul Gambac-

Who cares? say I. Both are as bad or as good as each other. It is only the

music that counts. As long as the

announcers don't natter (though they

do, more and more), I don't care who

they are. Like the young Nicholas

Kenyon, I just like looking through the Radio 3 schedules, picking out

Except when it comes to jazz,

I wrote a piece in this space the other day pointing out that Jazz Notes.

the only jazz programme that turns up

on BBC radio more than once a week.

has now been relegated to 12.30am for

half an hour a night. 12.30am! Imag-

ine the uproar if a programme called

Opera Notes were relegated to a time well after midnight. Imagine the

uproar if anything to do with opera

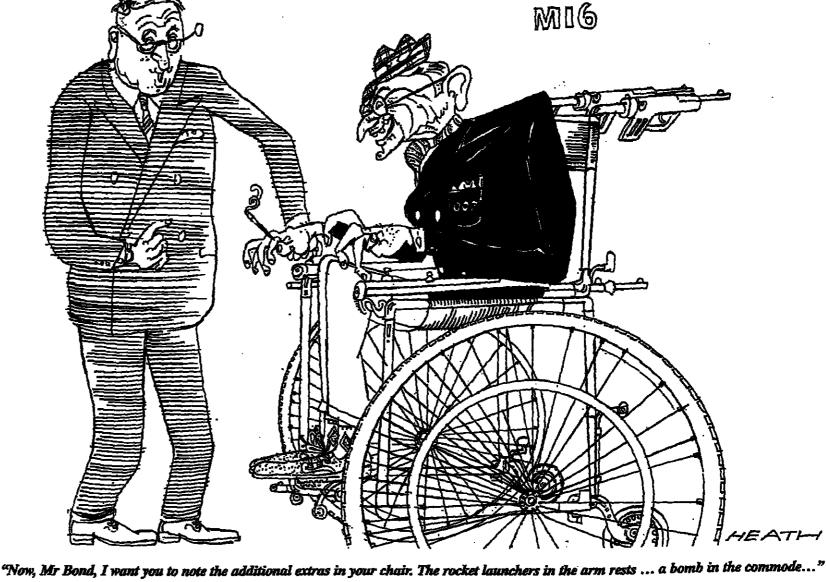
were mucked around with, even

things I like the look of.

which I am specially fond of.

cini. Is it the end of the world?

'Round midnight. Or perhaps not at all



- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

matter) of lack of access to com-

petitively priced foreign goods?

If US workers end up having to

spend more of their incomes on

expensive, inefficiently produced

domestic products, where are

to come from?

Protectionism is no road to prosperity

exporting countries, and so reduce the level of unfair com-

petition. The British government

resisted both moves. Meanwhile

Labour has little to say on the

Those thrown out of work here by such transfers of production

cannot sustain their consump-

tion. So employers producing in Britain for the domestic market

find business increasingly diffi-

cult. Some will in turn move

TOM KILCOURSE

Colyton, Devon

abroad, while others go under.

can easily lead him to calling for

protection, forgetting that the

What evidence does Mr

Luttwak have that excluding for-

eign products from the American

market would raise the wages of

labour, even in the short term?

Might employers not simply

choose to keep the monopoly profits generated by tariffs, thus

eracerbating just those inequal-ities which Mr Luttwak (rightly) seems concerned about? What

cutting itself off.

Sir: Edward Luttwak ("Your job can be safe again. Here's how", 6 April) fails to mention that the imports "reduced by Buchanan's high tariffs" are nominally Amer-ican, in part at least. "Expensive" US domestic production is being displaced by cheap US overseas production; American capital, "American" labels, but made by foreign workers.

The same is occurring on this side of the Atlantic, and not a single major party seems to have anything to say on the matter. British companies have exported jobs to China, and elsewhere where authoritarian regimes can Sir: Edward Lattwak makes the guarantee a quiescent workforce, error - too common among US often condemned to virtual serf- commentators - of treating dom. British firms import the global economic issues almost result, bearing a "British" label. entirely in American terms. This In some product ranges it is now nearly impossible for the British. is not made in China. This is not economy and has little to gain by free trade.

Our Government's response is to "compete", to reduce conditions among British workers to the level of those "enjoyed" by the slaves who have displaced them. Tory attitudes to the situation are highlighted by two events in recent years. One was a European decision to place quotas on imports of a range of goods from China; the second was a move to insist on improved about the effects on real wages labour conditions in Third World (in the end, the only wages which

Sir: I read with interest the Rev Keith C Blackburn's letter on the

Further to his point that the answer to the first verse is an emphatic "no", it should be pointed out that the reason for that is that the whole of the first verse of this "hymn" is based on the British Israelite myth. According to this myth all the (Protestant) British are descended from the ten lost tribes of Israel (who according to the Bible weren't lost anyway) and

though it's all music by long-dead

Jazz Notes often presents good

stuff by living musicians and com-posers (such as wonderful recent solo

sessions from the pianist Dave New-

ton and the guitarist Martin Taylor)

but I have to get up and work every

morning. I can't physically stay up to listen to it at 12.30am. And I don't see

why I should have to, or rely on a

timed recording.
But there was no way I could have

listened to last Thursday's Jazz Notes.

This was billed as a tribute to two

British jazz musicians who have just reached their 70th birthdays, Don Rendell and Cy Laurie. It did not,

however, go out on air, as far as I can

make out. It was never broadcast. This

was apparently because a concert ear-

lier in the evening overran, thus push-

ing everything later. Now, I can under-

stand why late running earlier in the evening should make Jazz Notes even

later than its already ludicrous times-

I'll tell you why. Because the pro-

gramme after Jazz Notes, at lam, was

Night School, the educational strand

that goes on so late that all its listen-

ers have to record it while they sleep.

So its time can't be changed. So

when Radio 3 starts running late,

something has to be cancelled, to

lot - but why cancel it altogether?

the Queen and Royal Family are the descendants of King David via Jesus Christ. Likewise according to this myth those professing

of East European origin. and totally loony.

avoid running into the buffers at lam. So Jazz Notes gets the chop.

But hold on, why didn't the pro-

gramme before Jazz Notes get the chop? It was only a repeat, after all. A repeat of This Week's Composer,

"Szymanowski", a programme which

was all gramophone records and had

already been heard. But that was pre-

served, while the Jazz Notes tribute to

two living musicians whose 70th birth-

day will not come again was pushed into the limbo from which no pro-

gramme ever re-emerges into a Radio

Szymanowski died in 1937 and

doesn't really need the kudos. Don Rendell and Cy Laurie are alive and well, and might feel somewhat miffed

that a once-in-a-lifetime tribute on

Radio 3 was chucked out just because

Radio 3 couldn't get its schedules

Like Nicholas Kenyon, I enjoy reading the Radio 3 schedules. Unlike

him, I get a lot of my enjoyment by

looking at the jazz late-night listings

and say, "It would have been nice to

hear that." Or, indeed, "It would have

been nice to hear that, assuming it

I don't think Radio 3 has gone pop.

I think it has just fallen into the hands

of people who don't know how to run

wasn't cancelled."

Times billing.

Loony myth behind 'Jerusalem'

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone

number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk)

Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

"Jerusalem" debate (4 May).

the faith of Judaism are not really biblical Jews but are crypto-Jews

So not only is "Jerusalem" xenophobic by omission of the Scots, the Irish and the Welsh; it is blatantly anti-Semitic, based on "no warrant of Holy Scripture"

JAMES SAMUEL COLE London SE18

St Stephen's Vestry at St Stephen's is quite the Sir. Mother Angelica may have "endeared herself to the Catholic

on St Stephen's Church, is a lit-tle disappointing (6 May). The headline of "Holy war" and "A church in schism" is dramatic but not accurate. What is happening

Mr Luttwak fails to mention within the Church of England that protectionism, the preferred and continues to offer the same solution to American economic traditional, but glorious worship ills in the early 1930s, did nothfor which St Stephen's has long been renowned. ing to prevent the greatest

depression in US history. Professor MARK STEELE **European Studies Programme** Boston University London SW7

Sir: Edward Luttwak argues that by raising tariffs America's Sundays at 11am will find that the employment and standards of living will rise. What he calls for Rome has not diminished our consumer to buy an item which US is part of an international is a policy analogous to the desire to offer worship to God Import Substitution policies advocated by the World Bank that Christian tradition allows. and the International Monetary Fund for developing nations: high tariffs would allow the development of indigenous manufac-

turing and so on. In practice these policies have been utter failures, successful only in raising work together in spite of the real prices and lowering quality with-out raising the standard of living

DAVID FITCH Department of Geography University of Edinburgh

Basildon, bastion of social concern

of workers.

Sir. As the first and only Labour MP to represent Basildon (thus far) may I compliment you on your local election coverage. However, the description of Basildon as a bastion of Thatcherism ("Alone in Essex as old friends fall out", 4 May) was somewhat misleading. The New Town has never been that.

Ever since the seat was constituted it has been highly marginal, reflecting the varying for-tunes of successive governments while the large electorate made it difficult to predict the outcome of any election with any degree of certainty. Indeed, for a number of years I represented an elec-torate in excess of 100,000 voters.

The issues facing New Town populations throughout the 1960s-1980s were not only the wider, national concerns but also local democracy and decision making between the development corporation and the local

councils. I'm sorry that the media and political commentators too easily rehash stories about Essex man and Basildon man (and woman) and their apparent inability to make individual and sober judgements of local and national needs. Such stories are an insult to the many genuine political and social concerns to be found in Basildon at this time.
Professor Eric Moonman

Test of logic

House of Lords The writer is Liberal Democrat

Sharing a church in peace

denominations.

ROGER PREECE

right wing in Britain" (6 May) with

her views on contraception, littingy

and sex education, but these views

seem almost identical to those

expressed in the Pope's encyclical of 1994, Vertiatis Splendor, as

described elsewhere in the same

edition of your newspaper ("Holy

war"). No wonder that she was welcomed by the organisation aptly named Pro Ecclesia et Pon-

The report referred also to the

singing of the Creed in Latin as

"a practice out of favour since

Vatican II": a strange assertion,

given that it is to be heard regu-

larly in Cardinal Hume's own

cathedral at Westminster, as well

Dr MONICA NURNBERG

Sir: Jonathan Glancey's feature divisions that do exist between

the gains in living standards, which Mr Luttwak predicts, going The Church remains fully

The 35 who have left to become Roman Catholics have been given permission, on a trial basis, to hold two services a week in the church and are also supporting us financially and practically.

Visitors to our main service on loss of a number of friends to with all the beauty and reverence

The Roman Catholic community, I know, has the same inten- as in Roman Catholic churches tion. The reality at St Stephen's across the land. is not "Holy war" but rather Christians seeking to share and

Serenity of Vermeer crowded out

taining only 21 paintings, the mention excessive merchandise, Vermeer exhibition at The Hague are characteristic of today's exhihas attracted tremendous publicity and vast audiences. While the show's high profile may serve to justify the expense involved and the difficulties posed by such

the work. Timed entrance tickets

London N7

Sir: Gordon Brown (7 May) adopts a petulant note which recalls the famous speaker's marginal rubric: "Weak point -- shout." If his proposal means anything at all, he is proposing to meanstest child benefit for 16-18 year

olds. Chris Smith, Labour's Social Security spokesman, tells us Labour are in favour of a significant reduction in means-testing. Who is running the show? Earl Russell

London SW1 Social Security spokesman

Department of French The University of Liverpool

Sir: Remarkable for a show con- and overcrowded spaces, not to

an undertaking, the great publicity surrounding it is, at the same time, its undoing.

Andrew Marr wrote (23 March) that the reason such a huge number of visitors are making the "pilgrimage" to the Hague is because "there they will experience something extraordinary, something they will never forget" - the "mystical experience" of Vermeer's art.

How can the serenity and stillness of a painting by Vermeer be appreciated when chaos and hys-teria fill the space around it? The crowds around each of Vermeer's small paintings are four rows deep and there is barely room to move, let alone concentrate on

Lib Dems poised

Sir: John Curtice's criticisms of the Liberal Democrats' recent performance and Paddy Ashdown's abandonment of equidistance (30 April) are both unfounded.

First, to say Labour's rise is at the expense of the Lib Dems and not the Conservatives is plainly wrong. National opinion polls put the Tories in the mid 20s (down 20 points from 1992) and the Lib Dems in the mid to high teens (the same as in 1992).

It is true that the Lib Dem candidate was squeezed in the Staffordshire by-election. This was the consequence of an electorate desperate for change, and now familiar with tactical voting: something which Labour has also suffered from in parliamentary by-elections since 1992, losing their deposits in Christchurch

and Newbury. On equidistance, if Mr Ashdown had left open the possibility of propping up this tired and dis-credited Government, then he would be seen as standing in the way of the British electorate's overwhelming mood for change. The Lib Dems are now well-positioned to take advantage of this mood.

CHARLES ANGLIN Lib Dem PPC for Leyton & Wanstead London E15

The same and the same and the same of the

bitions, of which the Vermeer, or the recent Cézanne show at the Tate, are typical. This is no way to see art.

It is also foolish to believe that it is genuine love and appreciation of Vermeer's genius, or Cézanne's revolutionary style, which draws the visitor. Compare the Cézanne exhibition with the Courtauld Institute; here, in the heart of London, are five splendid examples of Cézanne's paintings (three of which were, ironically, on loan to the Tate for the exhibition) yet the Courtauld receives fewer visitors in a year than the Tate did for this exhibition alone.

Exhibitions are sold to the public as packages; it seems that the audience's enthusiasm is driven more by the event than by a love of paintings

MARTINA DROTH

Renaming 'Jamie'

Sir: Your articles about the High Court ruling against Michael Howard's 15-year tariff on Robert Thompson and Jon Venables (3 May) refer to the murder of "Jamie" Bulger. The child's Christian name was James: this is what his parents and relations called him, and how they always knew him. "Jamie" is a media coinage: it is the name, not of a real boy, but of an icon or emblem. To continue using it is not only discespectful to the Bulger family. It also prevents us from thinking wisely and dispassionately about a case which involves the fates of two other young children.

London SE3 Sweat-shop work

BLAKE MORRISON

Sir: Two Thai brothers are imprisoned in Los Angeles for running a sweat-shop ("Jail for 'slave' pair", 1 May). They were given six years in prison and ordered to pay their workers

\$4.5m. In Britain they would be paraded before the Tory party conference as examples of "enterprise" Britain.

W J HUNTER Horley, Surrey

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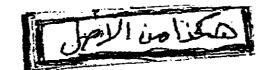
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comment

Listen carefully, Bond. The rules have changed

In 1971. Edward Heath's government pulled off one of the most bracingly inspired diplomatic coups of the post-war period. Britain expelled 105 Soviet spies. This was definitely not cricket. "Tit for tat" expulsions were fine, but a preemptive mass eviction was unheard of. The Russians were, literally,

It was a brilliant move because some genius at the Foreign Office had realised that spying, in those days, was not a zero sum game. The Soviets had dozens, possibly hundreds, of agents moving about a relatively open country. To keep track of each one, with their dead letter boxes in surreally banal places like Crouch End, required nine MIS operatives. Of course, we also had agents in the Soviet Union. Some were successful, but on the whole spying on a tightly controlled police state did not produce the same returns as spying on a democracy.

New enemies and an information explosion have turned today's spies into thinkers, not shooters

by refusing to play by the rules. Things have changed. Russia is no longer an enemy, but, on the other James Bond would defuse the hand, it must be an easier place to be a spy now that it is free of Com- Somehow, we thought, we had munist control. And it is a necessary place on which to spy. It remains a potentially unstable nation with a vast nuclear arsenal. Knowing what is going on there is probably more important than knowing about countries - such as Libya and Iraq - that are clearly defined as threats. In addition, the world as a whole remains a dangerous and unpre-dictable place. The paranoid nation state may be resting, but it is not dead. The great game of covert diplomacy must go on.
Yet the news that the Russians are

to expel British diplomats for spying comes as a shock, as if Slade or the

We had, therefore, nothing to lose Bay City Rollers suddenly had a number one hit. It is news from another era, from a time when wicked hi-tech schemes of the KGB. grown out of all that.

And it wasn't just the end of the Cold War that made spying seem dated. There has also been the steady stream of revelations from Oleg Gordievsky and others. These exposed not the exciting world of James Bond, but a drab world of clerks and bureaucrats, labouring as much against the demands of their bosses as against the enemy. Plus everybody did it and nobody could provide any objective assessment of gains or losses. It seemed, therefore, an essentially futile activity, a mere ritual whose silliness made it appear contemptible rather than heroic.



BRYAN APPLEYARD

But this Russian capture - I am assuming, almost certainly correctly, that we were indeed spying - reminds us that the ritual must continue. It must continue even though it may seem emptier than ever. The primary cause has gone. Our spies are no longer protecting our freedom against a savage totalitarianism. Rather, they are protecting us against a whole range of more nebulous

an uncertain military environment. Their activities cannot be justified by the formula us-good, them-bad; they can only be justified by the generalised conviction that it is better to know than not to know, better to be ready than to be taken by surprise.

Ultimately, however, traditional spying must be on the way out. Certainly, there is more to know than ever before, and as much need to know. But, at the same time, there is far more knowledge that is avail-able to everybody. The spook rifling a filing cabinet or skulking around an air base is, increasingly, an unnecessarily risky use of manpower. Satellites and computers can penetrate frontiers far more effectively, and the averagely gifted teen backer can find his way into all kinds of secret systems. Information is every-

industrial and economic threats, and where, lying about the place like rubbish on a skip; and, also like rubbish on a skip, some of it can turn out to be surprisingly valuable.

What now counts is understanding. We know, more or less exactly, what the Russian air force can do: what we want to know is whether it will do it. This may be as much a matter of reading newspapers or hunching the right man as breaking into an office or "turning" an informant in the Kremlin.

Our old-fashioned image of spying was based on the belief that there was something to be found out; for example, that, in James Bond terms, there was some devastating, exotic piece of technology whose secrets we had to discover. That image was born of an age of technological anxiety, the fear that science was moving so fast and on so many fronts

that it was out of control. Sputnik, the first space shot, enforced the sense that Western confidence in its own technological superiority might be misplaced. And that was com-bined with our sense of the Soviet Union as a vast, unknown landscape. After the last war, spy planes had to fly over the country just to map it properly. Spying was an expression of our fear of the profound illegibility of the enemy.

That fear is with us still. But now it is not of the doomsday weapon but rather of the scale and formlessness of the available information and of the uncertainty of who, exactly, is the

So, even though the rules have changed, we cannot stop playing the great intelligence game. But from now on, it really will be intelligence and the players will be thinkers, not shooters. A good thing, too, you may think, but not necessarily a less frightening one.

A blueprint for schools church in peace under Labour

The education guru Claus Moser sets out the path for a Blair government to follow

The best news about educa-tion is that it is now truly news. Politicians can no longer doubt there are votes in it. Indeed, almost for the first time, education may survive as a major issue into the election campaign.

There is a massive amount to be done and the key issue must be to improve education arrangements for low achievers and disadvantaged areas. This is where my hopes would be with Labour. It is my firm view. that the next government must provision, primary schools, the teaching profession and the secondary system.

There is no doubt that success throughout education and indeed beyond depends critically on the early years in nursery school. This is where the groundwork for literacy and numeracy is laid, where interest in many subjects can be stimulated, and - hopefully the seeds for actually enjoying

school sown Hence the high priority given by the National Commission on Education - and many others to nursery education for all three- and four-year-olds. This was backed by the Prime Minister. But then officials got to work, aiming at something less ambitious. So, two and a half years after the Prime Minister's endorsement, all we have is a small pilot experiment, limited to four-year-olds and based on highly controversial voucher finance. A pathetic response to a national need.

I would expect a Labour

government to give this true priority. Provision should cover three- as well as four-year-olds, local authorities being obliged to provide the places. A phased programme should start in deprived areas. Standards must be high, requiring specially trained and qualified teachers. Finance should come from public funds and the voucher system should be scrapped. I hope for universal provision within the lifetime of the next government

Parallel with this goes priorfocus on four crisis priorities - ity for our 19,000 primary cially judged inadequate, a shameful comment on the Gov-

> We cannot tolerate 15 per cent leaving primary school with limited literacy

ernment and local authorities. We will need an audit of primary schools, followed by an emergency programme to improve buildings, play-grounds, libraries and equipment. Again the start should be in inner-city, deprived areas.

Class sizes must be brought down. The National Commission proposed that no primary school pupils should be in classes over 30 or, where conditions are particularly diffi-cult, over 20. This is a major challenge, with at present over a million children in classes of

more than 30 and class sizes increasing. (Some official spokesmen have questioned the facts. This is disingenuous. The evidence for smaller classes is overwhelming, especially for the first two primary years). Schemes are also needed to attract good teachers into primary schools, teachers knowledgeable in relevant subjects, as well as in the basics of English and mathematics. To attract first-class heads is the most important of all.

In all this lies the solution for illiteracy and immumeracy. We children leaving primary schools with limited literacy and 20 per cent with limited

Then there is the priority for improvements in the teaching profession. No profession can expect to retain high motivation, if it is constantly run down. We need a more positive tone in the way politicians, officials and the media "talk" about teachers. A less provocative stance from the school inspectors would also do wonders. Of course inadequate teachers cannot be tolerated. But as a profession they deserve the highest respect. I look to the incoming government to set the tone and to implement the Commission's proposal to establish a General Teaching Coun-

cil. This is vital to give teachers a proper professional ethos, Initial teacher training is crucial, deserving increased support, not least in restoring the role of university education departments, so wrongly mar-



Primary school class sizes should be cut to 30, or 20 where conditions are particularly difficult

ginalised in recent years. Retraining on the job is a priority, constant bureaucratic intervention needs to be reduced, support staff strengthened and salaries were 37 per cent above average non-manual carnings now they are 1 per cent below Improved arrangements for selecting and training heads whose role is totally crucial -

need to be developed. As regards curricula, schools deserve a period of stability, though there is always room for marginal improvements. At primary level the mathematics curriculum needs reform along the lines practised on the Continent, and I also hope that space can be found for a foreign language, so easily learnt in

early years. At secondary level, I hope the arts will find their way back as compulsory after 14, as to save us from producing yet more philistine genera-tions. I hope that a Labour government will replace Alevels with a truly broad and flexible examination. A-levels are no longer appropriate either as school assessments,

nor for judging entrants to

higher education or the chang- selection. The secret to coming work scene.

I hope that the next governout in the debate on teaching polarised between those who favour whole-class, talk-and-

I hope peace will break out in the polarised debate on

teaching methods

chalk methods, and those preferring the often derided "progressive" methods. In truth, there is a range of methods which can exist side by side. As for the secondary system,

it should be developed on comprehensive schools at their best. There are many excellent comprehensives, offering opportunities to a wide range of children, not least under-achievers. They can be diverse, with perhaps increasing specialisa-tion, and a whole range of teaching methods, streaming and setting, but not, in my view,

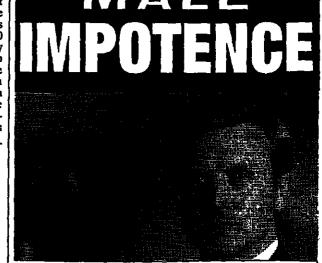
prehensive success is that they can attract a true mix of pupils, ment will allow peace to break mixed in ability, background and motivation. I hope that government, many, perhaps most, of the madequate comprehensives will be turned into attractive schools. This will need determination and resources. But it must be done if all chil-

dren are to have a fair chance. I would not engage in the uphill struggle of shutting down grammar and grant-maintained schools. Rather I hope that they will gradually but deliberately be transformed into firstclass comprehensives.

There remains the issue of independent schools. In one sense they are a minor problem. since they account for only eight per cent of children, but this is a considerable increase on the 5 per cent of a few years ago, and the figure is already 10 per cent in London. They remain highly privileged, both in what they offer and where they lead. I would look to a Labour government to take a number of steps to integrate them closely with the state system. The assisted places

scheme should go, as should privileged charitable status I look to the next government for an over-arching priority: to (unless it is extended to state improve the lot of children schools). National curriculum who under-achieve or suffer and qualification arrangements low teacher and parent expecschools. Above all, ways should disadvantaged in facilities and be found to extend their facilconditions. Spending on eduities to neighbouring state cation is an investment on schools. By this I don't just which economic growth mean swimming pools or chemdepends, and on which, in turn. istry labs. I mean that, wherever what we can spend from pubpracticable, there should be lic funds depend. The new govshared teaching arrangements eroment must accept this point. for children from independent and put education truly at the and neighbouring state schools. top of its agenda. And I would look to universi-

Sir Claus Moser was organiser of the independent National Commission on Education.



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applicants from state schools.

The daytime television debate: It's more than cosy chats on the sofa, says Rod Natkiel, the man who brought us Anne and Nick, while Polly Toynbee justifies her attack on the 'cheap mish-mash'

We offer a broad picture, not a stupid vision

Polly Toynbee's dismissive com-ments about daytime television are as patronising and insulting to the viewers as they are to the performers and programme-makers concerned. By sweepingly describing it as "Stu-pidvision", she implies that those who loyally tune into the diverse range of BBC and ITV programmes every day between 9am and 5pm are

Ms Toynbee's remarks indicate that she doesn't understand the very people who, as she acknowledges, make up the "diverse and intelligent andience" for daytime television. The demands of their tastes and needs have led to an increasingly impressive supply - from incisive factual debates such as Kilroy and The Time, The Place, through social action issues, to inventive factual entertainment like Going for a Song. Even Ms Toynbee has to applaud Can't Cook, Won't Cook, the triumphantly successful Ready Steady Cook, and out-and-out entertainment shows such as ITV's Super-

market Sweep. And, of course, there is news, drama, children's programmes and sport. Daytime television viewers have access to almost every genre of the available output. To attack daytime television for failing to take a chance with "new ideas, dangerous formats, risky try-

outs and crashing disasters" demeans the rights of those that watch it. Are daytime viewers to be treated like guinea pigs, to be played with at will? Experiments must be meritorious. Anyone involved in live television knows the risks inherent in the kind of live phone-in debates and interviews that feature daily on both net-

A cursory glance through the pages of the same Radio Times that features Ms Toynbee's invective will reveal a great diversity of programme output available throughout every day of the week. And new talent is to be found emerging from all areas of it. How else would new stars such as Dale Winton and Ainsley Harriott have earned their popularity with viewers?

Most puzzling of all, perhaps, is Ms Toynbee's revolutionary suggestion that the public should now have some say in the matter. The BBC carried out an extensive review of its daytime output months ago, drawing upon the opinions of thousands of daytime viewers. The new BBC I schedule that emerges in the autumn will be the true test of whether Ms Toynbee's patronising comments are justified.

Rod Natkiel is head of Network Tele-vision, BBC Pebble Mill.

It's time to change this tepid dishwater

Turious what makes news on a thin bank hol-Ciday Monday. The papers have been greatly exercised by my column in the Radio Times. I wrote that I thought daytime television was mainly old-fashioned tepid dishwater and patrotising to its viewers. So what's new?

I called it Supidvision because presenters, who must be reasonably intelligent people, pretend not to be so on daytime television. You can tell what they think of viewers by the way they strain to keep heir own brains in constant, grinding first gear. Schedulers target the lowest common denominator, trying to scrape up every last meagre viewer with a cheap mish-mash designed to offend

The departure of both Good Morning with Anne and Nick, and the Pebble Mill lunchtime chat show gives the BBC a chance to think again about how to treat their daytime viewers - though the BBC is by no means the worst offender. Channel 5 will be launched next January, earmarking daytime as one of its target zones. Will they all fight one another down lower and lower in the chieless stakes? Or is it time for a clever broadcaster - like the BBC - to lift its game?

Daytime audiences are scarce - Richard and Judy saw off Anne and Nick with a mere 1.9 million viewers. That could be liberating, offering

no-one, but probably delight no-one either. a chance to experiment, since there is less to lose sion schedulers are 20 years out of date. if a show flops. Instead of trying to attract viewers like flies with a thin layer of cheap jam, daytime television should use the freedom for new dangerous formats and risky try-outs. Now it is a graveyard for used producers, low in prestige. Why shouldn't it be a testing ground for new tal-

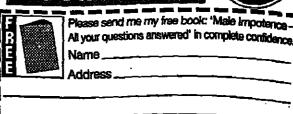
ent, where suyone with a good idea gets a go? There are some very good quirky shows. But most of the weary mornings and afternoons have a musty fly-blown aura that goes along with the dread word "housewife". At a time when even the mighty Unilever has dropped the housewife as a symbol for its washing products, the televi-

Daytime television matters - the audience verse. There are large numbers of the earlyretired who are definitely not old. There are many who work shifts, odd bours, work from home or have no work at all. But even if they are old that doesn't make them senile cabbages, nor are women at home with children imbecilic. The assumption that everyone at home is either an underclass no-hoper or a daft brush with Fairy Liqnid for brains is insulting. The quality of daytime programming matters, even if it isn't the pressige

end of the market. Is any of this really news?

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Cardinal Léo Jozef Suenens

Cardinal Léo Jozef Suenens, former Archbishop of Brussels-Malines, the primatial diocese of Belgium, was arguably the single most effective pro-moter of change within the Roman Catholic Church during the 1960s after the two Popes of that era, John XXIII and Paul VI.

His influence permeated the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) despite the suspicion and even antagonism of the more conservative elements in the Roman Curia. His strength lay in three factors: his manifest understanding of the modern world, his ability to convey this understanding in lucid language and, above all, the trust which Pope John and, for a time, Pope Paul, placed in his

judgement. Suenens came from a relatively impoverished background as his father, a Brussels restaurateur, died when he was a small child. When he entered the seminary to become a priest, after showing notable ability at school, he came to the notice of the then Archbishop of Brussels. Cardinal Désiré Mercier, who sent him to Rome, where he took his doctorates in theology and philosophy at the Gregorian University. Ordained priest in 1927, he spent some years in

teaching posts and was briefly an army chaplain before his appointment to the prestigious University of Louvain in 1940 as Vice-Rector. In 1945 he was made an auxiliary bishop and in 1961 Archbishop of Brussels-

The evolution of his atti-

tudes can be traced in this

career. The Gregorian and Louvain were formidable foreing-grounds for his intellectual formation, the pastoral experience of 16 years as an auxiliary bishop made for a realistic assessment of the state of postwar society in Western Europe, and the patronage of Cardinal Mercier put him in touch with the first stirrings of ecumenism - the movement towards Christian unity which Mercier had initiated in the 1920s through the abortive "Malines Conversations" with Lord Halifax. Mercier's dealings with the Church of England, incidentally, may well have been the origin of Sue-nens's own easy affinity with the Anglican communion both at the high level of Canterbury and York, but also in simpler circumstances such as a lecture and book launch at St Bride's in Fleet Street, which I remember with pleasure - the

Cardinal liked to explain that he was neither of the right nor the left in the Church but of "the extreme centre".

An ecumenical vision typified the modernising perceptions which caused Pope John to invite Suenens to advise him early in 1962 on how the up-coming Vatican Council might best be structured. Suenens replied with proposals that not only the role of bishops and relations with other churches should be on the agenda but also the then major questions of nuclear armaments, war and peace, population and birth control. When the first session of the Council floundered under the weight of too much documentation and controversial curial propositions, John called on Suenens and the Archbishop of Milan, Cardinal Montini, to take a major role in reorganising the Council's agenda and methodology. By the opening of the second session in the autumn of 1963, John was dead and Montini was reigning as Pope Paul VI.

Since the new Pope had a sensitivity to the problems of the age very similar to that of Suenens, the Council reflected their concerns accurately. It decreed the updating of Church

liturgy (involving the progres sive introduction of vernacular languages in place of Latin) and the understanding of the Church itself as the People of God - involving greater recognition of the role of the local churches and the laity as well as the rights of bishops acting in collaboration with the Pope. It also spoke of the need to acknowledge the good achieve-ments of the modern world as well as the dangers inherent in material values, the oppression of the poor and the nuclear arms race. Ecumenism, involving the truth to be perceived in other churches and the duty to work towards the unity of all Christians, was accepted as a centrepiece of Roman Catholic

Optimism began to cloud over with the publication of the encyclical Humanae Vitae in 1968, most memorable and immediately controversial for its repetition of existing papal con-demnations of artificial methods of birth control. While many within the Roman Church and outside it were distressed by the renewed condemnation, the document - which he had tried to dissuade the Pope from issning - saddened Suenens for

thinking.

A commission appointed by the Pope himself had recommended that the birth-control rule be changed : this advice was rejected, and in arriving at his decision the Pope had not con-sulted the bishops generally throughout the Church as the Council's doctrine of "collegiality" had seemed to imply would be the norm on matters of special importance. For Suenens this represented the dead hand of the curia at work. He thought he saw it in other aspects of papal policy at the same time and felt that the tendency undermined all authority within the Church. He made his criticisms known through an interview which he gave to the French journal Informations Catholiques in 1970 - and carried in English, at his request, in The Tablet.

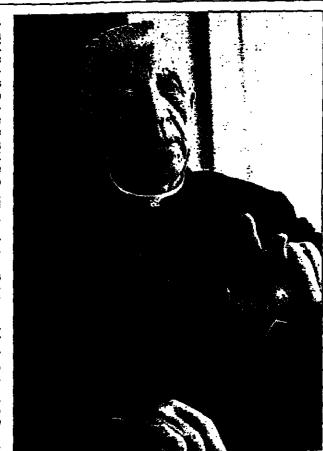
While arguments continued, the role of Suenens as a progressive flagbearer within the Church diminished thereafter. Curial influence proved the stronger, the pace of conciliar reform slowed down and, in the view of some, has actually been reversed in the reign of Paul's eventual successor, the present Pope John Paul II.

Suenens himself turned to promotion of the charismatic re-

newal movement virtually to exclusion of comments on Church policy: as he told a journalist, "I used to be concerned with the motor of the car, now I'm concerned with the petrol". It was the kind of remark he could so often phrase cogently in his excellent English. It was also the kind of analogy drawn from the modern western society which was his pastorate. It explained both his extraordinary influence in the world he understood so well and the discomfiture which his stance in the past had caused in those of older traditions and different perspectives. For the society from which he came, for which he spoke and to whom he addressed his many books, he was a prophet who did as his friend, John XXIII, so often advised: he read the signs of the

Louis McRedmond

Léo Jozef Suenens, priest; born Brussels 16 July 1904; ordained priest 1927; Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Malines 1945-61; Archbishop of Malines-Brussels and Primate of Belgium 1961-79 (Emeritus); created Cardinal 1962; Moderator of the Vatican Council 1962-65; died 6 May



ns: read the signs of the times Photograph: Andes Press Agency

Donald Cammell

The first film Donald Cammell co-directed was the remarkable Performance (1970), a violent, sexually ambiguous story of East End gangsters and a reclusive rock star which brutally stubbed out the fag end of the Swinging Sixties. It was an ex-ploration of the individual's role in society, and the establishment greatly disliked the fact. Reviews at the time were varied, but most memorable erhaps was John Simon of New York magazine, who said it was

"the most vile film ever made". Performance was not only radical, it was an exciting work of art - breaking barriers for the first time. It quickly became a milestone of the day, and many of its techniques - cross-cutting, sound which didn't relate to the image, its clever editing and general disjointedness - had an incredible influence on other directors' work. It became and still is a cult movie. The house in Lowndes Square used in the



film, belonging to Captain Leonard Plugge MP, became the butt of popular investigative journalism - questions were asked as to what was going on in this respectable Belgravia community and whether real drugs were being used in the film. James Fox, its star, found the experience of making Performance - and its subject matter - so disturbing that he retired from acting for 15 years.

kind of occasion where the

Donald Seton Cammell was named Seton after his godfather, the much respected Scottish naturalist Seton Gordon. He was born in Edinburgh in the Outlook Tower by the castle; his father Charles was a writer, poet and keen Scottish Nationalist and his mother Iona was a MacDonald. Both parents thought Donald had been born with a particularly artistic and imaginative star to guide and protect him.

He was educated at Westminster, but left early to concentrate on art. After studying drawing and painting at the Byam Shaw School of Art, he won a scholarship to the Roy-Pietro Annigoni, Back in Lonhis birdcage, and the young Marquess of Dufferin and Ava dressed as a page at the Queen's coronation.

In the mid-Fifties, Chelsea Cammell moved into a studio by whom he had a son.



al Academy Schools and then in Flood Street which, thanks to moved to Forence to study with his talent and charm, became a had become uneasy with Lonmecca for a remarkable numdon, he became a fashionable ber of beautiful women and a portrait painter. His subjects meeting-place for the "in" included the society photogra- crowd, including Antony Arm- abstract art was alien to him. pher Claude Virgin III Inr and strong-Jones. One of the Hoping to encounter a differwomen was Maria Andipa, a Greek actress (who later featured in the films A High Wind in Jamaica, 1965, and From Russia With Love, 1963), whom and the King's Road beckoned. he married when he was 20, and

By the mid-1960s, Cammell don. He wanted to live a "modern" life and found portrait-painting restrictive, but ent outlook, he moved first to Paris, and then to Los Angeles.

The first film he scripted but he was unhappy with the and Cammell's younger brothend result. He clearly thought er David as associate producer.

that writing and directing together was his destiny - that way he would have control of his material. Shortly afterwards he wrote Performance and, helped by his friendship with Mick Jagger, persuaded Warner Bros to give him his chance to make it himself. A team was formed with Sanford Lieberson as prowas Duffy in 1967, starring ducer, the lighting cameraman James Coburn and James Fox. Nicholas Roeg as joint director,

Shot in 1969, the first cut revealed one of the first really adult movies. Warner Bros were horrified and wanted to bury it.

However, despite divided opin-

ion, the film was finally released over two years later in 1972. Certainly Performance starhave provided a gateway to Donald Cammell's subsequent career. Sadly, Hollywood Cammell survived by develop- because we're so much more died Los Angeles 24 April 1996.

ing and scripting countless screenplays including White of the Eye (1987) and Demon Seed (1977), in which Julie Christie gave one of her greatest per-

The Wild Side, starring Christopher Walken and Joan Chen, was shot last year, but Cammell was unhappy with the cut made by New Image, the production company, and he removed his name from the credits. Other scripts involving Marlon Brando, "Jericho" and 'Fantan", have yet to come to fruition.

Michael Parkin

It is an admittedly minor question, writes John Lyttle. Nevertheless, it has tantalised movie buffs since Performance was released, and will tease all the more in the wake of Donald Cammell's death: whose style whose signature - is most stamped on what is, in many ways, the ultimate cult movie? Cammell's or his co-director Nicolas Roeg's, a question renic-oridle-by the fact that both and no less, than a meeting of

The obvious answer would style, the swirling camerawork. as hallucinatory (Eureka, Bad of the Eye's explosive finale. Timing, Walkabout) that mark tled and provoked, and should his later work are abundantly Donald Seion Cammell, scriptpresent in Performance. But this impression is partially false. 17 January 1934; married 1954 We think of Performance as Mana Andipa (one son; marriage thought differently. Instead Roeg's first fully-fledged vision dissolved), 1978 China Kong:

aware of the Roeg canon. He. like Cammell, would have collisions with the studio system. but Roeg's movies would (until recently) receive wide distribution. Cammell's commercial misfires - namely the misogynist nightmare Demon Seed and the serial killer thriller White of the Eye - have barely seen the light of day, and arc. unfortunately, seldom revived. so very few know that they are as visually extravagant and as dislocated as anything Rocg has offered.

The extraordinary White of the Eye in particular traffics in flashbacks, fast-cutting and a use of filters that simultaneously recalls Roeg while seeming the essence of Cammell. Likewise the film's voyeristic detachment from, but plain fascination with, the killer's sexuality and his convoluted relationship with his wife recalls Performance at its finest, as well as echoing Bad Timing.

So the puzzle of authorship remains, if puzzle it is. Perhaps dered all the more problemat- Performance was - is - no more were making directorial debuts? minds. And technique. And obsessions. Whatever, it reseem to be Roeg. The splintered mains both men's crowning achievement, unless Cammell's the intense colours and re- The Wild Side springs a last liance on scripts best described minute surprise equal to White

and the second s

writer, director: born Edinburgh

Hermann Kesten

National literatures are pep-pered with so-called living this early stage he seems to have envisaged twin careers for himmonuments, last surviving representatives of this and that, often more dreamed up than verifiable. It is, however, difficult to avoid the conclusion that, with the death of Hermann Kesten, an entire chapter of German literary history really has closed. And not only literary history - Kesten's presence at the points where literature and politics met or, more often, collided derived from his own clear sense that literature needed to be not only written but also promoted, organised and protected.

Kesten was born in Nuremberg in 1900, son of a Jewish ("Happy Man", 1931). Both merchant. In the early 1920s. while a student in Frankfurt, he was already writing plays and chosen as book forging literary plans. Even at Thomas Mann.

self, as a writer and as a publisher. Personal contacts -Kesten always relished the company of fellow writers and publishers - facilitated the move to Berlin to take up, in 1928, a post as an editor with the left-wing publisher Kiepenheuer. In the same year he published his first novel, Josef sucht die Freiheit ("Josef breaks free"). Reviewers were enthusiastic, and Kesten was awarded the prestigious Kleist Prize.

Two more novels quickly followed: Ein ausachweisender Mensch ("Running Riot", 1929) and Glückliche Menschen were judged highly topical and were well received - the last was chosen as book of the year by

But his other career was not neglected. Kesten was a key figure in the innovative literary programme of Kiepenheuer. In 1929 he published a collection of new writing by 24 authors, a selection so judi-ciously representative that it was reprinted more than 50 years later. Kesten's publishing gifts were brought into even sharper, if unwelcome, focus by the catastrophic turn of events in 1933. Kesten saw where the turn was likely to lead: early in 1933 his friend and fellow-novelist Erich Kästner met him on the Kurfürstendamm, suitcase in hand - "Where are you going?", Kâstner asked. "Paris." "For long?" "About 10 years," Kesten replied. He was in one sense nearly right, in another wholly wrong - he never again per-manently settled in Germany.

working for the Amsterdam publisher Allert de Lange. Amsisted other refugee writers sterdam became a centre of example and, with Klaus Mann, edited publisher Allert de Lange. Amile for German book-publishing a hugely influential anthology in the 1930s and Kesten, who moved there and became part of it, took seriously the task of creating communities and preserving continuities, editing banned writers known and unknown, past and present, from Heinrich Heine to Bertholt Brecht. His support of exiled writers was well known and it could take remarkably creative forms: in 1935 he wrote to his friend Klaus Mann suggesting "You should write a novel about a homosexual careerist in the Third Reich." Mann did - Mephisto was the result.

In 1940 Kesten emigrated to New York and later acquired American citizenship. Here too, New York and later acquired

gency Rescue Committee, he asof European creative writing from 1920 to 1940, called Heart of Europe.

Throughout the Hitler years and beyond Kesten continued to write prolifically. Indeed the experience of those troubled times yielded fiction and nonnines yielded helion and non-fiction: novels tracing con-trasting fates – Die Zwillinge von Nürnberg ("The Twins of Nuremberg", 1946) – or a Jew's recovery, against the odds, of his faith – Die fremden Götter ("Strange Gods", 1949) – or bi-ographies of seekers after variographies of seekers after varieties of freedom - Copernicus (1948) and Casanova (1952).

years in Rome) did not sever his links with Germany. Distance and seniority gave him a special status as Germany, and German literature in particular, emerged from the ruins. In the 47 Group, by far most influential grouping of writers and critics in the 1950s and early 1960s, he was regarded as "the Old Master". "the kindly, almost paternal mentor". He embodied, it seemed, a continuity reaching back into the far-distant 1920s. The recognition was there -Kesten received many prizes, was elected President of West German PEN in 1972 - but mentors are more likely to fall

In Paris Kesten began as a central figure in the Emer- in Switzerland and for many Johnson, in the early 1960s, he was increasingly seen - and sidelined - as an old-style liberal in a literary culture that sought newer styles of political commitment.

But the "paternal mentor" was no casual tag. The creative, preservative effects of Kesten's commitment to fellow writers during the dark years are incalculable. Nor is it incongruous that in one so committed to unbroken continuities his own early novels should seem to have lasted best. The three novels published between 1929 and 1931, with their ironically matter-of-fact handling of often macabre events are among the behind than to lead. After most vivid accounts in fiction of speaking out against what he the moral chaos at the end of wrongly saw as the Communist wrongly saw as the Communist the Weimar Republic. As the sympathies of one of Germany's critic Arthur Benjamin said, most promising writers. Uwe "Kesten's powerful realist gaze



Kesten; 'the Old Master

was penetrating those places where the world was trying to batten down the hatches."

Philip Brady Hermann Kesten, author, publisher: born Nuremberg 1900; married Toni Warowitz (died

1977); died Basle, Switzerland 3

BIRTHS

MORGAN: To Alice (née Reid) and Daniel, on 4 May, a son, Frederick Mark Edward.

DEATHS

CAMPBELL PRESTON: On Thursday 2 May 1996, as a result of an accident in Tanzania. Laura, 18, beloved daughter of Robert and Rosie Campbell-Preston, and sister of Clare. Patrick and Emma. Service on Friday 10 May at St Conan's Church, Lochawe, at 230pm.

Lochawe, at 2.30pm.
CHALLIS: James Thomas of Canter-bury, Husband of Brenda, father of Jasmine, Ben and Tig. Died peacefully 3 May in the Pilgrims' Hospice after a few weeks of illness, aged 66. Cremation on 10 May at Barham. No flowers, but donations to "Child Workers in Asia", Royal Bank of Scrolland Contestury.

Scotland, Canterbury. GIBSON: On 3 May 1996. Ethel, formerly of Bowdon, Cheshire, and lately of Oakwood House, Stalybridge, the beloved wife of the late Gordon Gibson and the dear mothcortion Crisson and the tech more er of the fate Dr Ian Gibson. Grateful thanks toward 34 Thameside Hospital for their tender care. Funeral service at Dukmfield Crematorium on Friday 10 May 1996 at Jorn. Enquiries to Vernon's Funeral Service, Ashton-under-Lyne. Itsephone. 0161-330 under-Lyne, telephone 0161-339 0599,

Births, Marriages & Deaths

GRILLER: On 26 April, Honor Eliza-heth, belowed mother of Catherine Pinner and Arnold Griller. Funeral service at Mortiolic Crematorium on Friday 10 May at 1,15pm. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marioes Road, Lon-don W8, telephone 0171-937 0757.

Announcements for Gauetre BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gauetre Editor. The Independent, I Canado Square, Canary Wharf, London El 4 50L, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (answering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2018, and are charged at 65.50 a line (VAT entra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at 510 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number. coments for Gazette BIRTHS.

Birthdays

Sir David Attenborough, broadcast-er and naturalist, 70; Mr Peter Benchley, author, 56; Lord Blyth of Rowington, chief executive and deputy chairman, Boots, 56; Mr Jack Charlton, football manager, 61; Dr Sir Anthony Dawson, consulting physician, former physician to the Queen, 68: Sir Ian Denholm, chairman, J. & J. Denholm, 69: Miss Viviana Durante, ballerina, 29; Viscount Falkland, former chief executive, C.T. Bowring (Trading) Holdings, 61: Mr Gary Gliner, rock performer, 52; Miss Heather Harp-er, soprano, 66; Lord Hoffmann, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 62; Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 71; Mr David Kendall, Chairman, Ruberoid, 61; Mr Norman Lamont MP, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, 54; The Right Rev Graham Leonard, former Bishop of London, 75; Miss Pelicity Lott, soprano, 49; Lord Murton of Lindisfarue, deputy Chairman of Committees, and a Deputy Speaker, House of Lords, 82; Vice-Admiral Sir Neville Purvis, chief executive. British Standards Institution, 60; Dr John

Reid MP, 48; Mr Alastair Service, writer, publisher, campaigner and

chairman, Wiltshire and Bath District Health Authority, 63; Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons, secretary, Council of Justice for Animals and Humane Slaughter Association, 59; Sir Ronald Waterhouse, former High Court judge, 70; Sir Philip Wilkinson, Court judge, 70; Sir Philip Wikinson, former deputy chairman, National Westminster Bank, 69.

Anniversaries Births: Karl Stamitz, composer, bep-tised, 1745; Johann Baptist Gäns-bacher, composer, 1778; Thomas Hancock, pioneer of rubber manu-facture, 1786; Saint Jean Baptiste Marie Vianney, priest and teacher, 1786; François-Auguste Marie Mignet, historian, 1796; Jean-Heuri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross, 1828; Moreton Frewen MP, writer and entrepreneur, 1853; John Meade Falkner, novelist, 1858; Harry S. Truman, 33rd US president, 1884; John Derrick Mordannt Snagge, broadcaster, 1904. Deaths: John Stuart Mill, political economist, 1873; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, 1880; Midhat Pasha, statesman, 1884; Eugène-Henri Paul Gauguin, post-Impressionist painter, 1903: Oswald

fragist, 1944; Harry Gordon Schridge, founder of Schridge's department store, 1947; Emanuel, Baron Shin-well, statesman, 1986. On this day: the Act of Uniformity was signed by Queen Elizabeth I, 1559; the British monarchy was restored, 1660; the "People's Charter" was issued by the Working Men's Association, 1838; the US forces defeated the Mexicans at the Battle of Palo Alto, 1846; Mount reice on Martinique erupted, destroying the city of St Pierre and killing 38,000 people, 1902. Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) took place, 1945; John Osborne's play Look Back in Anger was first performed, Royal Court Theatre, London, 1956. Today is the Feast Day of St Acacius or Agathus, St Benedict II, pope, St Boniface IV, pope, St Desiderans or Desire of Bourges, St Gibrian, St Otger, St Peter of Tarentaise, St Plechelm, St Victor Maurus and St

National Gallery: Elizabeth Allen. "Holbein (ii): Portrait of Erasmus", University College London, Lon-don WC1: Professor Christopher Spengler, philosopher, 1936; Dame don WC1: Professor Christopher Ethel Mary Smyth, composer and suf- H. Fry, "Understanding Muscle Dys-

function: experiences with the heart and bladder", 5.30pm.

The Queen and The Duke of Edin attend a Service of the Order of the Sexual Dependency", 6.30pm. Loughborough University: Professor Sir Robert May, "Biological Diver-sity, yesterday, today and tomorrow", 4.30pm.

Luncheons Institute of Physics

A luncheon was held by the Institute of Physics yesterday at the Goring Hotel, London SW1, for representatives of the Institute's Corporate Affiliate Companies. Dr C.A.P. Powell, Immediate Past President,

Italian Cultural Institute

An Interfaith Dialogue Meeting was held yesterday at the Italian Cultur-al Institute, London SW1. Among

Mr Stumel Hadas, Israeli Ambassador to the Holy See: Lord Weidenfeld; The Rev Wilbert Forter, of the Rempierm Foundation; Dr Zald Budawi, of the Muslim College; Mr Saba Risaladdin, Calamus Foundation; Rabbi H.

ROTAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queea and The Duke of Edinburgh aniend a Service of the Order of the British Empire in St Paul's Cathedral, London ECA. The Duke of Edinburgh, Precman and Liveryman, attends the Fishmongers' Company Court Ladies Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London ECA. Prince Edward, Patron, Ocean Youth Club, attends a private view of nautical pictures and memorabilia at Christie's South Kensington, London SW7. The Princess Royal opens the new Newmarket Hospinal, New. too. London SW7. The Princess Royal opens the new Newmarket Hospinil, Newmarket, Suffolk, as Patron, Animal Health Trust, attends the Princess Royal's Industry Committee Meeting, opens the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association Centre for Small Animal Studies, attends the Council of Management AGM at Lanwades Hall, Kennet, and attends the Industry Committee Dinner at the Dorchester House Hotel, Londow W1; and as Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, visits Bury St Edmunds Citizens

National Association of Calentin Carve-Bureaux, visits Bury St Edmunds Citizens Advice Bureau, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, Princess Margaret, President, the National Society for the Prevention of Criticity to

Children, opens the Society's Coventry Children's Centre, Coventry; and attends a performance at the Birmingham Hippodrome in aid of the NSPCC by the Birmingham Royal Ballet, of which she is President. The Duchess of Gloucester opens the new surgical block at St Michaels Hospital, Hayle; opens the new extension at Duchy Hospital, Truro; as Patron, National Asthma Campaign, visits the Asthma Information Centre, St Austell; and attends a presentation given by members attends a presentation given by members of the Asthma Took Team in Cornwall, at of the Asthma Tinck Team in Cormwall, at John Keay House, St Austell, Cormwall, Princers Alexandra visits the Louth County Hospital, Louth, Lincolnshire, and opens the offices of Lincolnshire, Reral Housing Association Limited at Markime House, Spilsby, Lincolnshire. Changing of the Guard

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regi-ment mounts the Oueen's Life Guard at ment munits into oncen a title courts at Horse Guards, Ham; 1st Battalion Webh Guards mounts the Oncen's Guard, of Buckingham Palace, H. Mam, band pro-vided by the Webb Guards.

Wills

Mr Terence Tenison Cunco, the painter, left estate valued at £1,384,146 net.

of London SW7, former Ambassador to the RNLL

to Spain and Portugal, and to Sweden, left estate valued at £403.256 net. Mr Harold Lawrence Smith, of Seisdon, Staffordshire, left estate value at £4,621,484 net. He left £2,500 to Sir Archibald David Manisty Ross. All Saints Church, Thysull, and £1,000

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THE INDEPENDENT • WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 1996		·	
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Treasury to lower growth expectations

Economics Editor

The Treasury will revise down its growth target for the economy this year in its summer forecast, due to be published early in July, despite Chancel-lor Kenneth Clarke's insistence that strong consumer spending

will boost the economy.

The move is likely to increase pressure from Conservative backenchers for further cuts in the cost of borrowing later this year. Many see buoyant

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098

City analysts do not, however, expect Mr Clarke to rush to reduce base rates after his monthly meeting this morning with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. The Chancellor has cut rates three times since December to their current 6 per cent level.

In last November's Budget Mr Clarke predicted 3 per cent growth in GDP in 1996. The Treasury is likely to cut this to 2.5-2.7 per cent, reflecting

growth as essential to their re-election chances. weaker export markets and only during the rest of this as early as possible from the continuing stagnation in man-year. It will cut its forecast usual midsummer date. ufacturing industry.

The Treasury's caution mirrors similar revisions by other forecasters - including some of its panel of "wise persons" who had been relatively optimistic about the pace of growth.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development will publish a revised outlook for the UK at the end of this month showing that its experts are not confident of a significant pick-up in the econ-

from the 2.4 per cent published in December, although the downgrade is unlikely to be as dramatic as draft documents have suggested.

The tone of the think-tank's annual report on the UK remains optimistic about the medium-term outlook for the economy. But, given the po-tentially embarrassing down-ward revision ahead of an election campaign, its publication has been brought forward of growth is likely to pick up

Plugging into the takeover circuit

Other prominent economists are shading down their predictions for growth this year. They include the London Business School, whose latest outlook was released last week, and the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, which publishes a new prediction in 10 days' time.

Andrew Sentance, director of the LBS's Centre for Econom-

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Trafalgar House £1.1bn

during the course of this year, but it would not be credible for the Chancellor to stick to a 3 per cent forecast." The Treasury would have to concede that the international environment had weakened, he said.

Martin Weale, director of the institute and one of the Treasury's panel, said: "It would quarter of this year, taking simistic to predict that there will be no improvement during the year. However, the Chancellor's chance of meeting 3 per cent is only one in five. It is not very likely."

The financial markets also expect the economy to strengthen. Traders in the futures market are betting that base rates will start rising from their current level by the autumn.

Recent preliminary figures show that the economy grew by GDP to a level only 2 per cent higher than a year earlier. The Office for National Statistics re-ported that the service indus-tries expanded by 0.5 per cent during the first quarter, down

from a 0.8 per cent increase in the final quarter of last year. But many economists think the preliminary estimates will be revised up, as they were for the fourth quarter of 1995. Some forecasters who had been at the pessimistic end of the range about this year's outlook have

recently upgraded their figures. The Treasury's monthly summary of forecasts for the UK economy showed that the average new prediction for GDP growth in 1996 was 2.4 per cent, up from 2.3 per cent.

Midlands counter-bid battle recedes

MICHAEL HARRISON

The prospect of a contested bid battle for Midlands Electricity looked to be receding last night, clearing the way for it to become the third regional power company to fall under the US

invasion of the industry.
The £1.7bn agreed bid yesterday from the Ohio-based electricity supplier Cinergy and General Public Utilities of New Jersey was not as high as some analysts had forecast, valuing Midlands at 440p a share.

But industry sources played down the likelihood of Houston Industries, the rumoured counter-bidder, coming in with a rival offer. Meanwhile, Merrill Lynch, brokers to Cinergy and GPU went into the market, buying 28 million shares in Midlands at 432p and lifting their stake to just over 9 per cent.

Bryan Townsend, chairman of Midlands, pledged that the takeover would not result in job losses and forecast that the alliance with the two US groups would produce a "formidable combination" in the world energy market.
Together the two US utilities

supply 3.3 million customers in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and operate 25,000 megawatts of generating plant. They have combined assets of \$18bn (£12bn) and a combined market capitalisation of \$8bn.

Avon Energy, the joint com-pany formed by Cinergy and GPU to bid for Midlands, will finance the offer with about \$1bn of equity while a further £1.5bn of debt is being raised by its bankers, Chase and BZW. The offer values Midlands at 14.1 times last year's earnings,

making it the second most expensive in the sector and represents a premium of 20 per cent over the bid by PowerGen, which was blocked two weeks ago by the President of the Board of Trade, Ian Lang.

Midlands directors will make £876,000 by cashing in their shares in the company but none of the board stand to make bonanza profits from share options.

PowerGen, which holds a crucial 21 per cent stake in Midlands, said last night that it had not been approached by the US bidders and was sitting tight on the holding, which is currently showing a £70m profit. A spokesman said it had not yet decided whether to sell the stake or to apply for a judicial review of the Lang decision.

Since Mr Lang has cleared two takeovers of regional elec-tricity companies by US utilities - Southern Company's bid for SWEB and Central and South West's acquisition of Seeboard - it would seem unlikely that this latest bid will be blocked. However, in the wake of mar-

ket confusion caused by the Government's recent rulings on bids in the power sector, nothing is being taken for granted. Mr Townsend aliayed fears that the takeover would mean more job losses on top of the 1,200 in the last two years that remain as Midlands chief exec-

Norweb Bidder: North West Water £1.8bn September 1995 Completed Swalec Bidder Welsh Water 2900m December 1995 Completed Midlands Bidder: PowerGen £1.95bn September 1995 Blocked Bidder:

ed that jobs would disappear as Midlands continued to improve its efficiency.

have taken the core workforce utive, forecast that the takeover down to 4,200. But he conced- would present opportunities in

GPU/Cinergy

May 1996 Proposed

SWEB

Bidder:

£1.1bn

July 1995 Completed

Southern Company

international markets while helping Midlands prepare for the opening up of the domestic 434,000 gas customers in the US.

Southern

National Power

October 1995

Midlands owns about 600MW of capacity in the UK through 25 per cent stakes in Teesside Powelectricity and gas markets in 1998. Cinergy is also a significant player in the gas market with stations in Tinkey and gas-fired stations in Tinkey and passified Tinkey and Pakistan. Mr Baker's deputy in charge Comment, page 19 of the Barings derivatives busi-

Norris barred for three years over Barings

JOHN EISENHAMMER

Peter Norris, the former chief executive of Barings, was yes-terday barred from holding any management position in the investment banking industry for at least three years. The Securities and Futures Authority, the City watchdog, found Mr Norris' part in the collapse of Britain's oldest merchant bank amounted to a serious failure of his managerial duties. He was also fined £10,000.

However, following negotiations over the terms of the disciplinary settlement, the SFA tepped back from declaring Mr Nortis, who is 41, to be not "fit and proper" to work in the se-curities business. After the ban, he will be able to reapply for registration with the SFA.

Yesterday's was the first suc-cessful disciplining of one of the former senior Barings' executives who were in charge when the bank crashed under nearly £900m of unauthorised derivatives losses. Most of the other eight former executives who have been investigated are expected, however, to contest the watchdog's disciplinary findings. Ron Baker, who was the di-

rect boss of Nick Leeson, the imprisoned rogue trader who carried out the disastrous speculation, yesterday presented the SFA with a detailed rebuttal of its charges. Declaring himself determined to clear his name of the unjust criticisms. Mr Baker has opted to take the matter to the SFA tribunal. It is understood that the punishment proposed by the SFA for Mr Baker is similar to that agreed with Mr Norris.

Peter Norris: A serious failure of duties ness at the time of the crash, Mary Walz, is also believed to

mer executives are facing penalties ranging from one- to three-year bans and fines of between £5,000 and £10,000. head of group treasury and risk, has taken the unusual course of refusing to comply with the SFA's disciplinary process. Mr Hopkins has told

the SFA he does not intend to submit a defence to a tribunal on the grounds that it will be unable to reach a fair verdict. Instead, Mr Hopkins has made a detailed submission to the Commons Treasury Select Committee, which will be holding hearings into the Barings

be contesting the SFA's findings before a tribunal. Five other for lan Hopkins, the former

collapse next Wednesday, How-

ever, Mr Hopkins is not among

the four former Barings exec-

utives ~ Peter Baring, the chair-

deputy chairman, Mr Norris, and Geoffrey Barnett, chief operating officer - who have been invited by the committee

to appear before it.

The SFA said Mr Norris admitted be "failed to act with duc." skill, care and diligence" re-garding the massive positions run up by Barings in its dealings between the Singapore and Japan-ese exchanges. He also failed to deal "with sufficient promptness and firmness" with a key clue that could have unmasked Lecson's dealings, a £50m discrepancy uncovered by Barings auditors in January 1995.

In determining the discipline for Mr Norris, the SFA said it had taken into account the fact that he had not previously been the subject of disciplinary action and had co-operated with the watchdog in its investigations.

In the detailed defence document handed yesterday to the SFA, Mr Baker's lawyers, Fox William, argued that he was be-ing unjustly sanctioned for man-agement failures outside of his responsibility. It pointed out that Mr Baker was in charge of Barings' house derivatives business and not the agency trading Mr Leeson was involved in. It also argues that he only took formal responsibility for Leeson in January 1995, while the fraud trading had been going on since

Regarding the costs of his defence, Mr Baker said: "In myown mind I have written off £100,000 as a worst-case scunario, but it could even end up

In March, the SFA formally cleared the two most senior former Barings executives, Peter Baring and Andrew Tuckey, of responsibility for the collapse man, Andrew Tuckey, the of the 233-year-old bank.

Sky plans 200 digital channels

MATHEW HORSMAN

BSkyB, the satellite broadcasting company, plans to launch 200 digital television channels from autumn of next year, using capacity on a soon-to-be-launched Astra digital satellite, the company's chief executive, Sam

Chisholm, confirmed yesterday.

The service would be available to any home in the UK equipped with a digital decoder, which Sky hopes will be priced at about £200. Between 60 and 100 channels

will be used to broadcast films on "near demand", with start times staggered so that viewers need not wait more than 15 minutes before the start of a chosen film. Mr Chisholm said the con-

tracts with Hollywood studios would mean sharing the revenues from pay-per-view. News of Sky's digital plans

came as the company unveiled record pre-tax profits ahead 71 per cent to £178m, on turnover of £736m, in the nine months to 31 March. The excellent financial per-

formance reflects the continued growth in our subscriber base," STOCK MARKETS

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Mr Chisholm said. The new digital services would free up capacity on existing satellites. which could then be used to broadcast channels for continental Europe, Sky sources said.

BSkyB, 40 per cent owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, recently announced a joint venture with three continental media companies to launch new pay-TV services in Europe, starting in Germany.



Sam Chisholm: Plans for films on 'near demand'

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Source: FT Information

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BSkyB's shares rose 8p to 462p on the results, but settled back to 454p, flat on the day. Analysts said the figures were in line with expectations, and sounded a cautious note about future earnings potential.

"There are real concerns

about the regulatory environment," said one leading analyst. The pay-TV market in the UK is currently the subject of an inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading, following complaints by cable operators over the terms under which Sky's satellite programming is supplied to them. They say Sky's nearmonopoly over programming, satellite capacity and subscription-management systems

makes the company the effec-tive "gatekeeper" in pay-TV. "If the OFT does not do something, then European competition authorities probably will," said another media analyst. "Either way, the current trends are probably not

The European Commission has also expressed concern about the company's dominant position in the pay-TV industry, and is believed to be studying the implications of BSkyB's

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In the UK, the OFT inquiry is "a very crucial issue as Sky position themselves for digital", Anthony de Larrinaga, analysi at Panmure Gordon, said.

Sky sources discounted the effects of any OFT intervention. They claim that the new digital platform would be open to other broadcasters, on a "fair and equitable basis".

But competitors are not convinced. There is a very real fear that Sky will dominate digital just as they have domi-nated analogue," said a source at a leading cable operator.

Management at BSkyB said the company's new digital programming services would allow it to continue to push up both subscription fees and the number of subscribers. Year-on-year, Sky has added

800,000 new subscribers, taking the total to 5.35 million, or onein-five UK households. But the current analogue satellite ser-vice is faced with severe capac-ity restraints. "They need digital to allow them to add new proton, analyst at Henderson Crosthwaite, said.

Long Board (20) Hear Ago

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BP forecourts suffer in petrol price war

PATRICK TOOHER

British Petroleum is losing money at the petrol pumps as a result of the forecourt price war between the oil big names and supermarkets.

"There are just too many petrol stations," said BP chief executive John Browne, yesterday. He added that further restructuring was inevitable.
In the first quarter of 1996,
BP's UK refining and marketing division lost £4m. BP blamed the shortfall in its downstream division on weaker mar-stream division on weaker mar-keting margins due to continuing competitive pres-sures, especially in the UK.

BP is the third-largest perrol

supplier in the UK after Esso, which initiated the price-cutting campaign to win market share from the superstores, and Shell. Mr Browne said BP had raised its share of the UK petrol market by 1 percentage point during the period but rising crude oil prices had cut product gains. Attempts had recently been made to lift petrol Comment, page 19 | prices, he added.

BP will have an estimated 16 per cent share of the UK market if the European Commission gives the go-ahead to a proposed merger of its European fuels operations with Mooil. The European Commission

is expected to give the \$5bn deal the green light by mid-1996. The joint venture, first an-nounced in February, is an attempt to tackle competition from Royal Dutch/Shell and Exxon, owners of Esso, while also providing a platform for growth in eastern Europe. BP has denied the Mobil joint venture is motivated by the petrol price war as Britian is just a small part of its operations.

Never the less, the deal will accelerate the decline in UK petrol station outlets. They have fallen from almost 40,000 some 30 years ago to less than 17,000 at the end of last year. The Petrol Retailers' Association has warned that less than

10,000 stations could remain within two years if the the price cuts and consolidation trends in the industry continue. Investment Column, page 21 implied criticism of the MMC's recent performance, which

\$ (Landon) 1.5113 +0.48c 1.5888 £ (London) 0.6617 -0.39 0.6294 \$ (N York) \$ 1,5115 +0.75c 1,5862 E (N York) \$ 0.6616 -0.33 0.6304 DM (London) 2 2992 -0.06at 2.1768 DM (London) 1.5213 -0.53at 1.3701 83.9 +0.2 82.7 \$ Index destanding May's chig There des Of Brent \$ 19.40 +0.23 18.85 393.60 +0.40 388.10 GDP 107.4+2.0pc 105.3 23 May 260.44 -1.26 244.27 Base Rates - 6.00pc 6.75

CBI proposes overhaul of **MMC** system

PETER RODGERS

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday proposed a radical overhaul of the Monopolies and Mergers Com-mission, which it said should be turned into a full-time appeals body with the loss of its present nvestigative role. The CBI said all the invest-

gative work and the key decisions on mergers and mo-nopolies should be made by a strengthened Office of Fair Trading, to be renamed the Competition Authority. The MMC would become the Competition Commission, with High Court status, hearing appeals against the authority's decisions. Julian Armstrong, chairman of the CBI's competition panel and a lawyer with Esso, de-nied that the proposal was an

came under heavy fire in the wake of a report last month on takeovers in the power industry. A majority of four of the MMC's part-time members recommended conditional clearance of bids by PowerGen and National Power for regional electricity companies, but the Government sided with a minority report by a single commissioner.

Mr Armstrong, whose re-port is being sent to the Labour Party as well as the Government, said the CBI's intention was to eliminate expensive du-plication. Companies have to submit to investigations by the OFT, which can then be followed by a separate inquiry by the MMC.

The CBI's plan is a response to a government consultation document on competition law,

comments on reform of the MMC or the OFT.

The CBI plan appears on the surface to run counter to Labour proposals for a merger of the OFT and the MMC into a single competition authority - although by reducing the MMC to an appeals body the employers have gone a long way towards meeting the Labour position. Adair Turner, the CBI's directorgeneral, has insisted that the employers remain neutral between



Adair Turner: Insists on neutral stance

the parties and tackle issues The CBI said it opposed Labour's plan to make companies show that takeovers are

positively in the public interest before they can proceed. Instead of the present system, under which MMC inquiries into mergers and monopolics are conducted by panels of part-time members, the commission would be headed by the equivalent of a High Court judge, assisted by economic and industrial assessors.

Ministers' powers to inter-1.1 vene would be much reduced. although they would have a right which did not, however, call for to override in merger cases.

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COMMENT

The Deputy Prime Minister would love privatised and greater competition introduced into one of the few

remaining state-run

to see the Post Office

monopolies. But realistically the chances must

be wafer-thin'

Heseltine eyes the last of the family silver Somewhere high up in the clouds above Westminster a large blue kite was to be observed yesterday bearing the dreaded words "Post Office privatisation". Surely this can't be back on the agenda barely a year

after Michael Heseltine was put in his box by a motley collection of shire Tories, fretful of what flogging off the Royal Mail would mean for rural postal services and appalled at the prospect of the Queen's head being replaced on our stamps by that of the President of the Board of Trade? Well, just maybe. If Railtrack can be sold

to the public, albeit at a giveaway price, then perhaps anything is privatisable. Moreover, the Conservatives are going to need some-thing to spice up their manifesto and dire straits sometimes demand desperate In any event, the idea of putting the Post

Office back in the melting pot for privati-sation is not entirely new. John Major hint-ed at just such a possibility in his Sunday morning chat with Sir David Frost earlier this Mr Heseltine has not got over being out-manoeuvred by his own backbenchers last May – a rare defeat which showed that his legendary political antennae are not always 100 per cent tuned in - and would love to see the Post Office privatised and greater competition introduced into one of the few remaining state-run monopolies. But realistically the chances must be wafer-thin and

tary arithmetic continues to stack up against the Government.

Something odd has also happened to the Post Office since privatisation was abandoned and replaced by a pledge that it would be given more commercial freedom within the public sector.

The Royal Mail - the profitable bit that had been slated for private ownership - has, if anything, been tied more closely to the purse strings of the public sector. Over the next three years its contribution to public finances through its external financing limit will actually be £400m higher than previously pianned.

Meanwhile Post Office Counters (the part of the organisation that would have stayed in public ownership even though in reality most of the network is run by private essmen) has been given greater freedom. You can now do anything from buy-ing travel insurance to wiring cash from your local post office

No doubt the idea of selling off one of the lew remaining pieces of family silver is being aired once again to test backbench re-action. When they have calmed down from their righteous indignation, those 20 or so Tories who spiked Mr Heseltine's guns may care to reflect that another 193 rural post offices have disappeared off the map since

If they have any better ideas for getting the Conservative Party out of the electoral hole in which it finds itself, perhaps they | can push up the price. Everybody has to deal | clared offside, the Americans have nipped | ing to fight tooth and nail to preserve them.

would like to pop them into plain manila | with us." (This is the family viewing version; | in to snap up Midlands Electricity. South-envelopes and send them off to the Deputy | all expletives deleted.) | ern is more than likely to go the same way. Prime Minister.

Questions to bring BSkyB back to earth

an BSkyB really be worth nearly £8bn? The quite astonishing growth of the satellite broadcaster in the past few years must be galling to all those who laughed at little Sky Television back in 1989, or who believed that Rupert Murdoch had finally lost his touch. BSkyB is now the country's 25thlargest company by market capitalisation, and is worth several hundreds of millions of pounds more than Mr Murdoch's parent company, News Corporation. Among UK media companies, only Reuters is bigger. Granada Group, even after swallowing Forte, is only worth £6.8bn.

What does the stock market get for its £8bn? A state-of-the-art subscription management system aside, the only real assets are subscriber revenues. It buys most of its programming and leases its satellite capac-

ity. What a wheeze!
So can the company really be worth it? If you ask Sam Chisholm, the chief executive, you'll get the obvious answer: "Of course it's worth £8bn, my dear, and a whole lot more. This is a brilliant company with a brilliant future. Every time we add new channels, we

all expletives deleted.)

But is this a party that can last? There are very real regulatory risks ahead for Mr Chisholm and his managers, not least an inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading into the company's dominant position in pay-TV. The OFT might refer the whole industry to the Monopolies & Mergers Commission, and then who knows what the outcome would be? One remedy could be separate accounting of Sky's programming from its subscription management system, to ensure fair arrange-

programming or to use its network. These issues will be even more pressing as Sky prepares to launch its digital satellite services. The steady, secure supply of fees from viewers for existing services has fuelled the company's incredible growth. Can that rhythm be maintained in the digital age? Will the regulators allow it? The market ignores such questions at its peril.

ments for broadcasters wanting to buy Sky's

A takeover tangle in power policy

Poor lan Lang. The Trade Secretary's of-ficials must have warned him when he blocked the two power generating bids for regional electricity companies that his de-cision might create more problems than it solved. So it has proved. With PowerGen de-

ern is more than likely to go the same way. Mr Lang has already performed so many somersaults on mergers policy for the elec-

tricity industry that it is possible he will go one further and stop the Americans bidding too. Certainly such action would be perfectly consistent with last week's "clarification" of chairman Lang's thoughts on who is allowed to take over whom, which was about as clear as mud. His problem is, however, that he has already cleared a number of American bids for other regional electricity companies. A mere trifle perhaps, but even Mr Lang has to show some consistency in approach.

So we are now in the crazy position of it heing perfectly all right for Americans to take over regional electricity companies, appar-ently all right for Scottish generators to do so, fine for Eastern if it is owned by Hanson to take on generating capacity, but wrong for English generators to own distribution companies and wrong for distributors to own generators. Even for those of us who think we understand the Government's plans for the electricity market, this seemingly arbitrary approach is plainly a nonsense.

It is also hard to see how preserving the present rigid divisions of ownership and or-ganisation in the industry, which is essentially what all this decision-making adds up to, is going to benefit either competition or the consumer. The Americans are paying top dollar for these monopolies and they are go-

.ADT alarms ring after US accounting rule changes

MAGNUS GRIMOND

A US accounting change has plunged burglar alarms group ADT deep into the red in the first three months of the year. The Bermuda-registered group, which is being reshaped under long-standing chairman and chief executive Michael Ashcroft, yesterday reported a pretax loss of \$371m (£245m) for the first quarter, compared with profits of \$36.4m last time. The shares fell 15p to £11.08p in London after the news despite: the announcement that the board had approved the pur-Phase of 5 million of the company's own shares.



Michael Ashcroft: In the process of reshaping ADT

Following the introduction of more stringent accounting rules in the US, where ADT is based, the group has been forced to take a \$410m charge, most of which relates to goodwill associated with its electronic security business. Of the total, \$395m has fallen in this area of the business, with the US bearing the brunt. ADT said with-out the charge it would have

reported earnings per share of 23 cents, instead of a loss of

Adding back the one-off charge, net profits after tax rose 14 per cent to \$31m on sales cut from \$373m to \$354m. mostly due to the absence of ADT's European vehicle-auction business, the old British Car

Mr Ashcroft said new channels of distribution, through strategic alliances in the retail, financial services and real estate sectors and its new authorised dealer programme, meant ADT "is well positioned to achieve growth in market share and to increase customer density in chosen markets".

He added: "The reorganisation of the electronic security services business in North America along business lines is proceeding well and we are optimistic that the benefits of this reorganisation will start to come through towards the end of 1996 and beyond."
The US market for residen-

tial security systems remains "very competitive", with mass marketing initiatives across the industry keeping prices

But the UK provided a bright spot, with the group seeing "significant" growth in closed-circuit television business, including a \$3.5m contract won in the first quarter from Railtrack for systems to be installed on 72 railway platforms.

The remaining vehicle auction business in the US was hit by last winter's extreme weather, with profits broadly flat at \$11.6m in the quarter. ADT said snow removal alone cost \$500,000 and a number of days' sales were lost.

IN BRIEF

inficant pay increases last year though the department store group's profits halved to £14m and the share price continued to underperform. Andrew Jennings, the former managing director who was ousted earlier this year, saw his pay increase from £267,000 to £302,600 last year. His pay included benefits of £48,437 for the use of a company car, mobile phone and accommodation in central London for his wife and family. Mr. Ispainer's grant and accommodation in central London for his wife and family. House of Fraser's three executive directors each enjoyed sigcentral London for his wife and family. Mr Jennings' severance pay was not disclosed in the company's annual report.

Richard Scott, finance director, and Tony Hancock, operations

director, also received pay increases of between 5 and 10 per cent. Chairman Brian McGowan's pay was static at £150,000.

David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's of London, received a total remuneration package of £468,000 last year. His basic salary of £450,000 was unchanged from 1994, but his benefits were down to £18,000 from £30,000. Hopes of a settlement at Lloyd's were boosted yesterday by victory for the society in the Clementson case. It enables Lloyd's to collect some £700m owed by names for claims paid on their behalf out of the society's central fund. Names had sought to block the retrieval of assets by arguing that the opera-tion of the central fund was contrary to EU competition law.

* Job cuts planned by US corporations are running at double their 1995 level, according to a new employment survey. Big companies announced 30,810 redundancies last month, up from 15,678 in the same month last year. During the first four months of the year, announced cuts totalled 199,505, up 75.9 per cent on the

same period in 1995. • German manufacturing orders climbed by 1.2 per cent in March, almost reversing February's weather-eraggerated decline. The level of orders remained 4.3 per cent lower than a year earlier, although the trend is not as weak as it was at the end of 1995.

The Spanish and Swedish central banks cut interest rates in separate bids to revive their flagging economies. Sweden cut its main money market rate for the tenth time this year, to 6.70 per cent. Spain reduced its bank lending rate by a quarter point to 7.5 per cent. Economists expect further reductions in rates by the Bundesbank and Banque de France.

Electrifying News from around the World.



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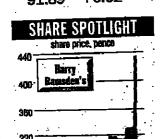
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727.1m shares, 34,481 bargains Gilts Index 91.89 +0.02



Lucas Industries, the vehicle components group, drove for-ward as the rest of the stock market fidgeted uneasily about its inability to score from the current outbreak of takeover

In often busy trading, Lucas motored 34.5p, ending 25.5p higher at 233.5p, the best ever closing level.

The proposed link with the US group, Varity, created the excitement. Although the signs from the two were that some form of trading pact was being considered, the market took the view the talks signalled an attempt by Lucas to flush out any potential bidder.

It is seen as vulnerable following the pending departure of George Simpson, who steps down as chief executive in the autumn to move to the GEC

Initially the US talks are

brake divisions. But there must be a possibility that they could be stretched further and result in a full merger. Varity is too small to buy Lucas and the £1.5bn the UK group would have to find for the Americans could stretch its resources, although the sale of its aerospace division could

help bridge the gap.
The Varity talks are being read as indicating that Lucas is now in play and it realises it lacks the necessary clout to be a major player in the world league. So a strategic alliance, possibly a full merger, looks

The US talks presumably mean that Lucas has given up on one its possible moves, its bid to buy a 30 per cent interest in Valeo, the French car components group. The stake has been put on the market by former Italian PM Carlo de Benedetti. Lucas was known to



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

cent of Midlands but prevent-

ed from bidding by the Gov-

traded with a 32.8 million

turnover printed, indicating,

perhaps, that James Capel had

got rid of some of the contro-

National Grid was busily

ernment, fell 8p to 549p.

Stock market reporter

ance merger was followed by the expected US bid for Miding out the possibility of taking full control. lands Electricity and on a The car components group's much smaller level Stanley display was in sharp contrast to Leisure, the bookie, said it was most of the market, with the talking to quoted rival Gus FT-SE 100 index off 28.6 points Carter. to 3.723, although the supporting FT-SE 250 index man-Midlands gained 10p to 433p on what is a generous bid; aged to return to winning ways with a 10.2 gain to 4,525.5. PowerGen, sitting on 21 per

Although many followers believe there is a good chance of an interest rate cut this month the continuing political uncertainty and another New York downturn inhibited

The market has certainly experienced the takeover action many said would provoke an Middle Eastern ramifications at 555p.

Promoted questions to be Ahead of a crucial present prompted questions to be asked about the beneficial

maining regionals will be picked off lifted them a few Manchester Utd greeted its

Premiership triumph with a churlish 17p fall to 356p; Millwall's relegation left the shares 0.5p off at 2p. The shares were once more than 20p. Harry Ramsden's, the fish

and chip restaurant chain, continued its heady progress. climbing 53p to a 437p peak. The shares have risen 111p in a week. Whithread, year's figures today, Rank Organisation and First Leisure are the leading names in the bid frame.

British Petroleum was uninspired by the strong oil price and encouraging results, falling 13p to 569p, and British Bor-

The 11.5 per cent interest came from Hanson but its cumbed to profit taking, off 18p

tation, British Biotech topped £30, reaching 3,025p with a 77p gain. Chiroscience, with an £11.6m loss, and a £40.3m rights issue, gained 45p to

Steel Burrill Jones, the insurance broker, edged forward 2p to 47p as rumours surfaced that one of the bigger names in the industry would take advantage of the depressed price and mount a bid. The shares were 112p last

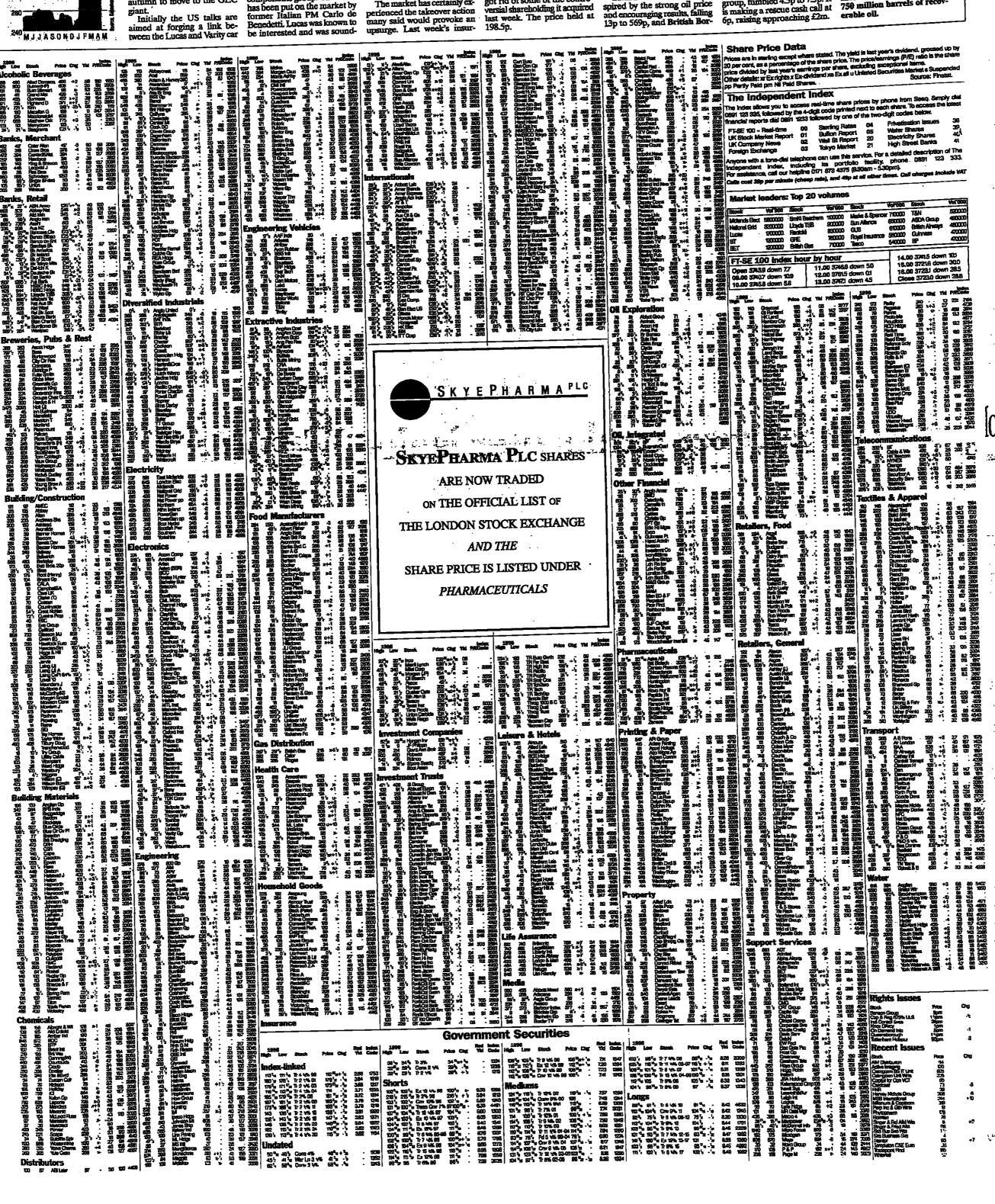
Strategem, the mini conlomerate, slumped 36p to 7p on disappointing profits and Hay & Robertson added 4p to 54p following its rugby

group, tumbled 4.5p to 7.5p. It is making a rescue cash call at 6p, raising approaching £2m.

Clifton Financial Associates, run by Stephen Barciay,

is bringing its sixth company to market - Premiere Group, which is raising £2.7m through the issue of shares at 133p. Dealings start on Monday. The company, with 19 employment agencies, was born out of Burns-Anderson, the services group once head-ed by famed trouble shooter Sir John Harvey-Jones. BA went into receivership and Robert Durston and Dorian Marks, Premiere's managing directors, acquired 15 of its recruitment branches.

Pan Andean, the Bolivian wonder share, fell \$p to 88p. An independent report on its oil developments by an industry researcher is thought to suggest that the part of the Charpare block so far examined could suggest a yield of 750 million barrels of recov-



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Sal.

Stephen

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business

BP pumps up its performance

barrassment of having to halve the dividend in 1992 is now no more than a bad and fading memory; BP is back as Britain's biggest company, and Sir David Simon, the architect of the dramatic turnaround, is the country's top industrialist, according to a recent poll of fellow business leaders.

The view that BP seems to be pushing all the right buttons was borne out by yesterday's first-quarter profits of f629m (£464m). They broke all records
- apart from a freak first three months in 1986 when crude oil prices crashed and huge stock losses sharply reduced the tax charge.

Exploration and production, the main income stream, saw operating profits rise 36 per cent to £737m but it would be too easy to put this down just to a rise in the oil price from \$16.72 a barrel to \$18.50 during the period.

BP says the higher oil price merely offset falling chemicals margins. Rather, it reckons the \$160m underlying improvement came entirely from what it calls self-help. Half of this was due to higher volumes, due to the un-usually cold winter in Europe.

The rest came in reduced costs, which, all other things being equal, should flow straight to the bottom line, pushing full-year profits to £2.3bn or above, implying a p/e ratio of about 14.

Even on the chemicals side, where profits almost halved to £128m as rismg feedstock prices hit margins, BP appears to be doing better than most of pears to be doing better than most or the other oil majors. The outlook here is encouraging, with demand showing no sign of tapering off and only limited capacity coming on-stream. Elsewhere, the UK petrol forecount

price war took its toll on the marketing side, but better refining margins improved the division's overall profit contribution from £43m to £156m.

The right sort of records are also being broken on the balance sheet. Net debt of \$7.1bn, for example, is just 27 per cent of equity - the lowest since 1987. All this, and promises to pay out 50 per cent of underlying earnings to shareholders in the medium term, suggests that the shares are set to continue their recent strong run.

The big cloud is the prospect of sharply lower oil prices if Iraq is allowed to re-enter the world market. Talks are continuing between the United Nations and Baghdad about lifting sanctions, but Sir David thinks a resolution is no more likely this time around and he is factoring in an oil price of \$16-\$18 a barrel for the rest of the year.

He's probably right – it is hard to see the oil embargo being lifted this side of the US presidential election or unTHE INVESTMENT COLUMN errisks, as it relies on established drugs. Its existing business has managed to

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

til there is a change in the Iraqi lead- the results of pre-clinical trials showership. All of which indicates that the shares, which encountered some profit-taking yesterday, down 13p to 569p, look pretty good value.

Chiroscience is still overvalued

The City's ability to suspend disbelief can be a wonder to behold. Promoters with hard-to-verify claims have parted investors from their money for centuries, but the rise and rise of the biotechnology sector has been im-

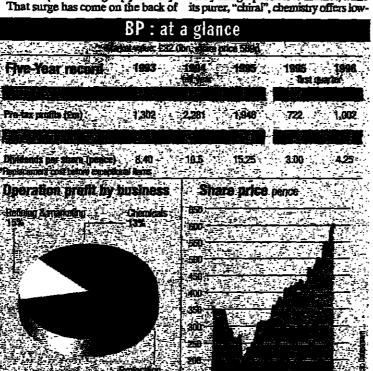
pressive even by past standards.

Chiroscience is a case in point. Floated at 150p just over two years ago, the shares only broke through their issue price last year, boosted by prospects for its Levobupivacaine anaesthetic following a link-up with Swedish drugs group Pharmacia. For most of this year the shares drifted but since the end of April, in a week, they effectively doubled to 500p after rising 45p yesterday.

ing that Chiroscience's matrix metallo-proteinase inhibitor against cancer had produced better results at this stage of its development than Marimastal, a more advanced rival being developed by British Biotech. Hopes for Marimastat have given British Biotech a mar-ket capitalisation sufficient to put it on the verge of the FT-SE 100 index.

No doubt Chiroscience's success with an MMP-related drug is coincidental, but it has clearly had a wonderful effect on the share price, which has come in handy given that the company is now going it alone without Pharmacia and yesterday announced a placing to raise a net £40.3m. Shareholders are being offered one new share for every seven held at 410p to pay for a pilot-scale drug production facility be-ing sold by E Merck for £5.5m and to garner funds for Chiroscience's development needs for the next few years.

The ball case is that the company's Dezketoprofen pain killer could be launched in Spain soon, making it one of the first of the biotech babes to actually bring a product to market, while



nearly triple sales to £4.96m last year. even if pre-tax losses deepened from £9.23m to £11.6m. But its really new compounds remain around five years from the market and its near-term

prospects are likely to be subject to generic competition. At £413m at the placing price, Chiroscience remains overvalued.

Gus Carter offer is the best bet

The rumoured offer from Stanley Leisure for Gus Carter is probably the best end to an unsatisfactory year on the stock market for the North-eastbased bookie. For a company that makes a living reading future probabilities, Carter got the impact of the national lottery on its business spectacularly wrong and without the prospect of a bid shareholders would be looking at a sizeable loss.

Announcing a sharp fall in profits within months of coming to the market a year ago was an embarrassment for both the company and its adviser, Wise Speke, and it was no surprise that the shares sank from their 80p placing price to a low of 49p last November. Bid rumours pushed them up to 78p by the weekend and yesterday's confirmation that the two companies were talking about a price slightly above that put another 6p on the price for an 84p close, 5 per cent above the flotation level.

A takeover of Carter's 72 betting shops by Stanley, which itself runs 400, is the just the latest merger in a continuing consolidation of a hard-pressed industry. With Sunday betting pushing up the costs of running bookies with-out any appreciable uplift in revenues. it is not likely to be the last. Only the strongest can withstand the onslaught of the lottery, which has radically al-tered the discretionary spending patterns that determine the prof-

itability of gambling businesses.

The Trewhitt family that still owns a majority of the shares, even after cashing in £2m worth at last year's flotation, will do well enough out of the £13m acquisition not to worry about the £500,000 they wasted on the costs of coming to the market. But plainly a trade sale would have made more sense in the first place and shareholders who bought the leisure industry hype 12 months ago will count themselves lucky to have secured a no-less exit. Not all stock market mistakes have such a happy ending.

Second labour day looms large for capitalist pig

CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

Cedric the Pig, star of the British Gas annual general meeting a year ago, again took pride of place on Monday at the Labour Day celebrations on London's Clapham Common. The pig was named after British Gas's then chief executive, Cedric Brown, by trades unionists at the GMB to satirise Mr Brown's generous day increase.

What Monday's gathering of locals, new age travellers and Billy Bragg fans may not have realised is that Cedric the pig is a sow, and a heavily pregnant one to boot. This explains the porker's non-ap-pearance at last week's British Gas agm. We trust the piglets will be named after the board

It's a hard life being a rebel. Just ask Prem Sikka, the con-troversial professor of accounting at Essex University, who has come third-from-bottom in an election in which there were no fewer than 19 candidates in the running. And this isn't the first time Mr Sîkka has run.

The results of the election of the council for the Char-tered Association of Certified Accountants have been greeted with glee by the beancounting establishment, however. The ACCA's president, Mike Harvey, comment-ed yesterday: "Neither of the 'Reform Group' candidates achieved sufficient support to gain a seat on the council (Mr Sikka being one of them). The results are a ringing vote of confidence in council and a

decision".

Barbarians. But the hairy shorts have gone, forever.

BP (Q1)t

BSligB (N)

Chiroscience (Fi

Gloves Group (F)

A de Grecty (F)

get lots of money and plenty to do, what with continuing de-Time was when Cotton Oxford was the label you saw inside particularly hairy rugby shorts, the long ones with buttons down the front and yarn round the middle, as worn by the late Eric Morecambe. With the current wall of money engulfing rugby and all traces of amateurism being tossed to the wind, the Cotton Oxford name is not surprisingly in the front line. Yesterday Hay and Robertson, a clothing company, reached agreement with Peaco Sport for the exclusive rights to the brand name throughout the UK and Europe. Elmer Jonathan Cotton founded the business in 1911 and the company formed strong links with Oxford University. Today the company is a big sponsor of club rugby with links with the likes of Bath, Leicester and the



sign that common sense is fighting back." Next time luck-ier, Mr Sikka?

If you hurry, you may just be able to get your CV in for the job of director of corporate communications at SBC War-burg. Jens Tholstrup, plucked from SBC's corporate finance department 12 months ago to head up the newly merged bank's public affairs office, is returning as planned to his previous role, where he will be specialising in financial institutions. The bank says that it will announce his successor when it has made a final

The winning applicant will

corporate finance department. Speaking of spokespeople, Duncan Campbell-Smith is

fections from the old Warburg

stepping aside as head of corporate PR and investor relations at Pearson in order to attend a month-long MBA course at London Business School, Mr Campbell-Smith will then take up a new post within Pearson - as spokesman its Penguin subsidiary. Taking what appears to be a step down becomes more attractive when you consider that he will no longer have to answer questions about Mindscape, the venture which Pearson expects could lose up to £46m this year.

Ask the average person in a crowded bar what Macdonald Martin is famous for and you would probably draw a blank. Ask them whether they would like a Glenmorangie and they would know exactly what you are talking about. Thus the Scottish drinks company Macdonald Martin Distillers decided to change its name yesterday to its favourite brand, and will henceforth be known as Glenmorangie Plc.

4.25p (3p)

2.25p (1 75p)

6p (5 64p)

Morton accuses banks over leaks

PETER RODGERS

Eurotunnel and its bankers were in another row yesterday, this time over alleged leaks in Paris of proposals for restructuring £8.1bn of debt.

As militant French shareholders prepared for a campaign meeting in Calais today to rally support against the banks, Sir Alastair Morton said in a statement to the Stock Exchange that he agreed with criticisms of bank leaks made by his French co-chairman, Patrick Ponsolle.

Sir Alastair said: "I concur with his comments, including his reference to the concern likely to be felt at such behaviour by

the Paris Bourse and the London Stock Exchange."

The Stock Exchange, however, is not thought to be investigating the briefings of the press by banks in Paris, because there was little price movement in Eurotunnel shares. The company still awaits details of the bank proposals, which are

due by Friday. Sir Alastair made clear the company expected sacrifices from the banks, saying the two sides would "only make progress when the banks come to the table to negotiate a mutually acceptable resolution of

a shared problem". The Calais meeting is by at the instigation of the Association Pour l'Action Eurotunnel,

chaired by Christian Cambier, who is organising today's special train from Paris to the tunnel's Calais terminal to publicise his call for the banks to write off

> 30 per cent of the debt Like other small-shareholder representatives in France, inchiding the separate Association de Defense des Actionnaires d'Eurotunnel (Adacte), Mr Cambier's organisation has been mounting a virulent campaign against the banks which has no parallel in the UK.

The campaign has had wide-spread backing in the French press and its leaders now claim Mr Ponsolle as a convert to the cause. Two-thirds of Eurotunnel's shareholders are French. Mr Cambier said recently:

"The tunnel belongs to us, and it needs our agreement to take it away from us. We have put in Fr23bn (£2.96bn), Fr19bn has been lifted off us, and we have

Fr4bn left." The theme of the campaign is to prove that the banks were in control of the project from the beginning, that they per-suaded shareholders to pour in money and they have a responsibility for the damage done by Euronamel's financial failure.

George Berlioz, a lawyer representing Adacte, claims the banks set up the project, fixed its financial structure, acted as managers in fact and in law and at the same time are the main creditors. He claims they are

acting as the French equivalent of shadow directors - a practice known as "gestion de fait". He has also threatened the

banks with an action for fraudulent hankruntcy if Eurotunnel does fold, on the grounds that they continued to push ahead with the project to earn interest and commission when it was obviously in financial ruin.

The weapon in the banks' hands is that they have a contractual right to take over the tunnel - called a right of substitution - if there is no prospect of their debt being serviced. This would leave Eurotunnel

as a company, with no rights over the tunnel until the banks have been repaid - probably many decades away, if ever.

Vodafone raises French holding

TOM STEVENSON

Vodafone raised its stake in France's second mobile phone network vesterday, increasing its holding in SFR, a rival to France Telecom, from 10 to 16.5 per cent at a cost of Fr2.36n (£297m).

Analysts said the exercise of part of an option to raise Voda-fone's holding to 20 per cent by the end of next year was no surprise. But the price of the deal was welcomed for the potential knock-on effect it would have on Vodasone's own valuation and that of rival Celinet.

According to one commonly used measure, which compares the value of a mobile phone company with the number of its subscribers and their relative wealth, SFR is valued by acquisition more highly than Vodafone itself. One analyst said it created a new valuation benchmark. Gerald Whent, chief execu-

tive, said: "Our strategy is to increase our overseas shareholdings wherever possible. The opportunity to acquire additional equity in SFR is extremely important as the French market has great potential for further development."

SFR runs one of the two mobile telephone networks in operation in France, with France Telecom running the other. Bouygues SA, which was awarded the third mobile phone licence, is expected to launch its service before the end of the

Vodafone now has stakes in mobile phone businesses in 14 overseas countries. These range in importance from a 95 per cent holding in Vodafone PTY in Australia to less than 4 per cent in Denmark's second operator. Sonofon. It has now achieved its aim of

balancing its UK business with an equally sized business overseas to provide growth outside the increasingly competitive market in the UK. The success of Orange in attracting subscribers to the all-important digital market has put pressure on pricing for all four UK operators. Mobile telephony has not been the success in France that it has so far in the UK, Italy and Germany, but there is thought to be substantial demand for the finance accountancy 2

(F) - Final (I) - Interim (C1) - First quarter " net profit | Trigures on historical cost basis

COMPANY RESULTS

736m (565m)

19.8m (19.2m)

47.3m (42.8m)

55.2m (45.6m)

*723m *(510m) 12.9p (9.3p)

178m (71.1m) 9.73p (6.38p)

2.4m (1.66m) 10.5p (5.7p)

2.17m (2.14m) 11.9p (11.4p)

0.45m (1.50m) 1p (7.3p)

-11 6m (-9.23m) -15.8n (13.6n) oil (-)

A 6 page appointment section covering vital issues in accountancy, public sector finance and the legal profession.

See pages

section two

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Every Wednesday in the INDEPENDENT section two

IN BRIEF

• Chiroscience, the fledgling biotechnology stock, has issued options to three directors valued at £2.44m during the past year. John Padfield, chief executive, now sits on a potential profit just short of £4.6m from options following a near fourfold rise in the shares to 500p since the latest issue was made at 127p in May 1995. Jon Dickens, research and development director, is showing a paper profit of £836,000 on 224,069 options given at the same price, taking his total to 464,069, while the surplus for Andrew Richards, director of pharmaceutical business development, is worth £340,000 for his additional 91,286 options, which make a total of 653,636. The news came as the shares soared another 45p yesterday, despite a placing to raise £40.3m. The company said it would have eight drugs in clinical trials by the end

 Maid, the on-line computer business information supplier, has signed a deal with the hotel group Forte to provide its 355 hotels with on-line business services. The deal includes individual in-room access to the Internet, which is expected to be provided through the television sets in the group's 50,000 ho-

• Gieves Group, the retailer which recently acquired the Knickerbox underwear group, increased profits from £1.66m to £2.74m last year. Though sales at the core Gieves & Hawkes division were up in the current year, costs had also increased. Better news is forecast for the overseas division, with volumes and margins predicted to improve in the wholesaling business. The dividend was increased from 1.5p to 2.25p.

• CRH, the Irish building materials company, has acquired four US businesses for a total of Ir£18.6m. Ritangela Construction, Brooks Products, Foster Masonry and Southeastern Manufacturing, achieved combined trading profits of IrF2.8m last year on sales

 Rubicon Group has sold its aluminium alloys division to management for £7.4m. The business, which makes secondary aluminium in the UK and France, was acquired with Calder Group. The sale includes the investment in EMP Technologies, which makes electromagnetic pumps for liquid aluminium and other metals. The division had sales of £23.7m and operating profits of £155,000 in the six months to November. Assets valued at £1.4m

will be sold separately. • Dragon Oil, an Irish oil company, is acquiring a 60 per cent stake in Larmag Energy Assets, which operates an oil and gas block in the Caspian Sea, off Turkmenistan. The group is converting \$19.2m of loans made to LEA and is raising £37.5m in a placing of the converting the converting \$19.2m of loans made to LEA and is raising £37.5m in a placing of the converting the converting \$19.2m of loans made to LEA and is raising £37.5m in a placing of the converting the conve placing of shares at 1.5p with Satellite Overseas, a company owned by Arifin Panigoro, an Indonesian businessman. There is a separate two-for-five open offer to existing shareholders at 1.5p to raise another £12.7m.

Goldsmiths withdraws one offer for Signet

Goldsmiths, the jewellery chain, has withdrawn one of its two bids for the UK jewellery businesses of Signet, the former Ratners group. It is understood that the company decided to with-draw its offer, which was being backed by Schroder Ventures. on Friday evening. As a management buy-out

has also been ruled out, the decision leaves the other Goldsmiths bid as the only known candidate left in the bid battle. Under the remaining Goldsmiths bid, venture capital group Apax & Partners is of-fering £250m-£280m for the

H Samuel and Ernest Jones chains. Apax would also acquire Goldsmiths, taking the group private. If the offer was successful, Goldsmiths' chief executive, Jurek Piasecki, would be placed in charge of the enlarged group.

signet declined to comment on the list of bidders yesterday or a possible timescale. However, it is understood that a final decision will not be taken for another two to three weeks.

Although the Apax-led deal is the only definite candidate, it is possible that another bidder could have entered the fray, either from another sector or

retailer, made an offer that

was considered to be too low.

Nathan Light, the former head

from outside the UK. caused a clear conflict of inter-The list of possible bidders est if he was also preparing his has thinned out quickly over reown offer for the stores. cent weeks. Argos, the catalogue

lurek Piasecki: Stands to take charge of the enlarged group of Sterling, Signet's US business, is not on the list. A UK management buy-out led by Lawrence Cooklin can now also be discounted. Mr Cooklin, the former Burton finance director who now runs Signet's UK's businesses, has been conducting the presentations to the bidders. This would have

Gerald Ratner was also intersted in buying the stores back but has not been success-ful and is concentrating on his the cash.

Tobacco Dock factory outlet shopping centre near London's Tower Bridge. Although the bid list now

seems to have been whittled down to a shortlist of one, it is possible that Signet will choose not to sell H Samuel and Ernest Jones. Signet's chairman, Jim McAdam, has stuck to his resolution that the two chains are only for sale "at the right place". Although trading has im-

proved, the company is still under pressure to sell the businesses as it desperately needs

Nash House built up by High Baroque style

RICHARD EDMONDSON reports from Chester

Derby clues apient; -merged at the Roodeye yesterday, not from the oval that is Britain's oldest racecourse but rather the similar shape that is Peter Chapple-Hyam's mouth.

After a Pete and dud show in the first when the trainer's odds-on Carmine Lake was a miserable disappointment, the Manton handler captured both events that were billed as Blue Riband trials before revealing that his serious Epsom aspirants were back home with the

Legal Right won a Grosvenor Maiden Stakes that had several Derby entrants among the assembly, but as the winner is not considered to be of Epsom calibre it may be safe to ignore those that trod in his hoofprints.

High Baroque took the main event, the Chester Vase, despite negotiating the tight turns with the smoothness of a combine harvester. His chances of winning the Derby are limited however, as he is not entered for the race. All five that finished behind him are. Among the vanquished was

Air Quest, a full-brother to the 1990 Derby winner, Quest For Fame. The favourite resembled his sibling in the parade ring, albeit following a course of slimming powders, but after finishing last but one he appeared no more than a shadow.

High Baroque is the joint property of Robert Sangster and Michael Tabor, who are not near the top of many people's list of great losers. Sangster's this isolated gallop has done and the turn of foot. Legal deeds in racing spread back two nothing to dilute Chapple-Right, Astor Place, Heron Island

decades, while Tabor, who has made something of a comeback since being a warned-off bookmaker in the 1970s, is the new face of successful ownership of the 90s. From a base in Monte Carlo he monitors worldwide interests that brought him a Kentucky Derby 12 months ago with Thunder Gulch and several tidy victories within these

These connections, it appears, do not confer special privileges on High Baroque. On his return, Chapple-Hyam loudly slapped the colt down the neck and greeted him with the tender words: "You're lazier than me you bastard." The King Ed-

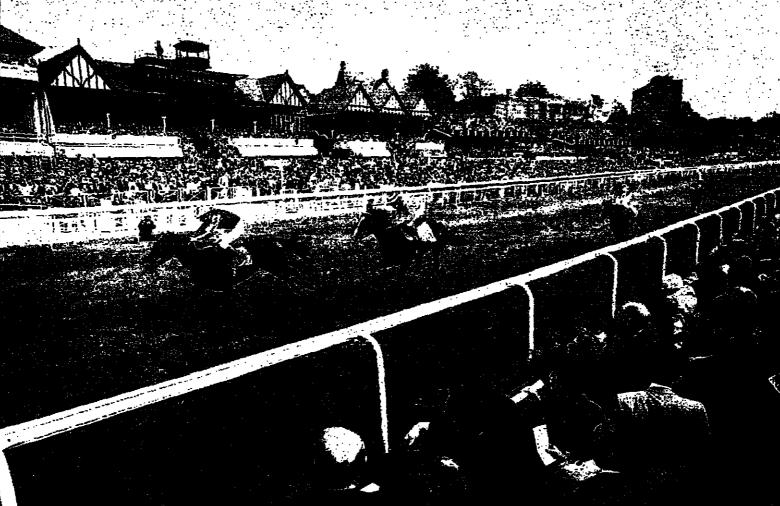
> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Blaze Away (Chester 3.40) **NB: Total Aloof** (Chester 4.10)

ward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot

Chapple-Hyam admires High Baroque's tenacity, but on a point of naked quality he has others in his mind. Heron Island contests the Lingfield Derby Trial on Saturday in a programme that is likely to include the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby). while Astor Place is also further up the pecking order and is expected to prove his mettle against Dushyantor in the Glasgow Stakes at York next week.

Tve believed in Astor Place from the moment he came into the yard," the trainer said. "Tve

always loved the horse." Astor Place, it was reported. worked better yesterday morn-ing than Nash House, although



High Baroque wins yesterday's Derby trial, the Chester Vase, from St Mawes, Prince Of My Heart and Sasuru

Hyam's faith in the Newbury maiden winner. "Nash House is the boy," he said. "He is the one at home that's got the real class

and High Baroque are more galas Spectrum so we're not sure lopers who haven't got that if he'll get the trip, but the way electrifying turn of foot. Nash he works at home convinces me House can go whoosh but the that he will." other horses just do it. "He's bred on the same lines

4.20 Peggy Spencer

Nash House will also be on able. Punters should start comthe Knavesmire, where his op- posing their sick notes.

1.50 Superior Premium 2.20 Lord Sky 2.50 Philgem 3.20 Philgem 3.50 ALAMBAR (nap)

GOING: Good to Soft.

STALLS: Reund course - Inside; straight course - far side.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Left-hand galloping course; ran-in 210yds.

Course is E of town on A758. Ayr station Inc. ADMISSION:
Gub £12; Grandstand £7 (CAPs balf-price). GAE PARE: Free.

RLINERRED FIRST TIME: Rattle (3.50), Bedanzle & Tacjay'a'zitch (4.20), Party Partnet (visucei, 3.20).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: Gifther (3.20) won at Hamilton on Thursday, Just Bob (1.20) won at Hamilton on Priday.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: General Haven (3.50) has been sent

1.50 AYR MAY CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS

MASTERSTRONE (26) (D) 8 Meethan 9 2 SUPPRIOR PERSONN (26) (D) R Fahey 9 2 BEN'S RIDGE (20) P Hastam 8 12

13 HIT OR MESS (19) (D) M. Cramon 8 11. ___P P Marphy (5) 5

2.20 BALLANTRAE HANDICAP (CLASS E)

1 0-50301 JUST 808 (5) (20) S Remard 7 10 6 (7ex) Liberto Duyer (7) 2 14300 HBDDLE (1557 (219) (0)) O Bason 3 10 0 Dean Hickows 10 3 100266 PRESCOUS 6881 (186) (0) (0) D Modian 3 10 0

7 14-0000 LEMANUS I TRANSPORT (19 N Sycot) 4 8 13 _____ & Defield 6
9 00:00-0 ANOTHER RESIGNATE (27) (0) T Dyer 4 8 6 _R Medien (7) 1
10 56:00-05 SURDAY MAIL TOO (6) (0) Miss L Persey 4 7 10 _____ L Cannock; 11 B

~ 11 declared ~ 1.4 Abrillan weight 7st 20th. The handlag weight Scounts Away 7st 8th. BETTING: 9-4 lest 8th, 5-1 Lard Sty, Frenthmen, 5-1 Sandey Half Yoo, 8-1 Middle East, 10-1 Precious Gld, Leading Phicota, 16-1 others

2.50 FENWICK MAIDEN CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 1m 2f

11 40403-0 SECONDS ANNAY (83) J Golde 5 7 10 _____ T WE

1 4220-00 FLYAWAY BLUES (21) Mrs M Reveloy 4 10 0.

D) £5,500 added 2YO 5f

UNIT-EEM Miss L. Person 8 12............. OSOBERIAL D Haydin Jones 8 12...

- 9 declared -BETRINE: 7-4 Superior President, 7-2 Pail Traceability, 9-2 M 6-1 Geomestal, Hit Or Miss, 10-1 Express Get, 16-1 others

£4,500 added 5f

400 miles by T.J Naughton from Epsons, Surrey

becoming increasingly unmiss-

popents in the Dante Stakes a

THE DERBY (Epsom, 8 Amer; Corat: 6-1 Even Top, 7-1 Mark Of Esseem & Nagh House, 8-1 Almarth, 10-1 Dustyertor; Ledbrokest 4-1 Mark Of Esseem, 5-1 Even Top, 7-1 Almarth & Nash House, 8-1 Dustyertor; Willeash Hit. 5-1 Even Top, Mark Of Steem & Nash House, 8-1 Almarth & Dustyantor, 18-1 Micks Love. week today will include Henry Cecil's Storm Trooper. York is 00-0000 SHERIOOT (6) D Mortant 4 9 1 ______ Derren Mortan 000400 - TREMPED (235) P Mortant 4 8 11 ______ Cher

3.20 TORRANYARD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added 1m 2f 192yds

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. The handless weight: Perty Parrot 7st 8b. BETTERS: 11-4 GRibox, 6-1 Askern, Neep Battling, 6-1 Dame Point,

022-6 MLANIBAR (13) P Walnyr 8 12.... 00-5 BOLD PATRIOT (22) J Hills 8 12....

3.50 CROSSHELL LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 added 370 1m

323134 GENERAL HAVEN (8) T J Neughpun 9 1 ______ Feature 25-0201 SURESY SECURE (6) (D) M Common 9 1 ____ P Marphy (5)

- v accured -BETHNS: 6-4 Alambar, 9-4 Smiley Secure, 4-1 General Haven, 7-1 Bold Patrict, 12-1 Manoy, 25-1 Sunday Madatran

4.20 KILMACOLM HANDICAP (CLASS F) £4,000 added 7f

2-20144 PESSY SPENCER (42) (D) (BF) C Thomas 4 9 12

13 0000-46 SHAREOFTHEACTION (11) (D) Mis A Naughton 5 8 8

3542-16 BEDAZZIE (23) M Stream 58 7 M Bated (6) 12 8 6 60-040) BLUE LUGAMA (20) N Bycook 4 8 5 T Williams 9 0 05000 TALBERN FRE (197) Ms M Reseley 3 7 13.

000003 ASSESSIN (8) (7) D Haych Jones 5 10 D ...
055130 MANFUL (10) W Eney 4 9 10 ...
571-8404 DNAN PORTO (9) T D Barron 4 9 8 ...
0-20363 MINES ZIANZERAR (11) R Folloy 4 9 2 ...
00-8061 MINES ZIANZERAR (11) R Folloy 4 9 2 ...
020051 WALMORTH LIDW (12) (0) M Dods 5 8 13 ...
020051 WALMORTH LIDW (12) (0) M Dods 5 8 13 ...

Photograph: Robert Hallam

crowd in Cup

Blaze to

burn off

GREG WOOD

Just 12 months ago, it was a fact every bit as solidly founded as the viaduct at the far end of the course that Chester Cup day was the most popular at the track all year. That was before 35,000 people crammed inside its tight boundary in last year's most spectacular demonstration of the racegoing public's appetite for Sunday racing.

The memory of the Chester infield with not a square inch unoccupied by punters or vehicles resurfaced yesterday, but only in reaction to the latest evidence that while people are happy to visit a racecourse on Sunday, even those who are deathly pale after spending the other six days of the week in the artificial light of a betting shop would rather spend the seventh elsewhere. Following the meetings at Newmarket and Salisbury three days ago - which were both well attended considering the sporting alternatives on offer - the major firms re-ported that their outlets were all but punter-less. Whether they will contine to open some - or indeed any - shops on future Sundays must now be in doubt.

The gate will fall a little short of 35,000 at Chester today, but given that Cup day is an impossible crush anyway, few race-goers will complain. The stalls will be full too for the main event, which has attracted a maximum field of 18, and the fight for service at the bar will be as nothing to the scrum around the first few bends.

Today's 18-furlong trip offers many runners their only chance of a big pay-day, so plenty have been prepared with this race in mind. Trainglot, a Cesarewitch winner, has not raced on the level this year, but was a winner at the Cheltenham Festival and money with access to Jimmy FitzGerald's yard has promoted him to the top of the market.

His most recent Flat form what there is of it - is hardly encouraging and since the next two in the market, Merit and Fujiyama Crest, are there on potential rather than achievement. the value lies elsewhere. BLAZE AWAY (nap 3.40) was beaten less than five lengths in last year's Cesarewitch off a marty. 11b higher than today's, goes well on a sound surface and demonstrated his well-being over hurdles at Ascot eight days ago. The 9-1 available this morning must be taken, while Smilin N Wishin (next best 3.10) and Angaar

HYPERION'S TV TIPS

(4.10) also deserve support.

CHESTER

2.40: The newcomer Raven Master, from the yard that won this have to be speedy to cope with VASARL Caught only in the closing stages at Sandown on his de-but, this headstrong type should

3.10: SOLAR CRYSTAL, the May Hill Stakes winner, gives 5lb to her rivals but is a class above these and

2.27

aŭse:

" 191

1 29 1

3.40: Invariably a rough-and tum-ble race but if BLAZE AWAY can keep clear of trouble he must go close. This five-year-old was in great shape when scoring over hundles at Ascot last week.

4.10: WILDWOOD FLOWER proved he gets this trip when sec-ond at Newmarket in April, while ingaar's form is at five furlongs.

UTTOXETER HYPERION 6.10 A Windy Citizen 6.40 Freddie For 7.10 Licky Christopher 7.40 Grecian Lark 8.10 Young Brave 8.40 Rolling Ball WETHERBY

HYPERION
6.00 Dance King 6.30 Political Tower
7.00 Edity 7.30 Earlymorning Light
8.00 Respers Rock 8.30 Tweedswood





CHEPSTOW 983 WETHERBY (E) 984 UTTOXETER (E) 985 0891 261 970

Sangster piles on the praise for Chester's carpet While Chester's going was and look at the ground. It is su-

_7 Quien 2

.N Varley (3) !

praised by Robert Sangster, perb, like a carpet." Sangster the part owner of High Baroque was scathing about ground con-ditions at Newmarket.

clerk] should come to Chester horses up at the Craven meet-

CHESTER

2.10 Bellator

2.40 Vasari

3.10 Səlar Crystal

said. "I'm running 16 in the North and had nothing at Newmarket and the ground is the 'Nick Lees [Newmarket's main reason. We jarred a lot of

3.40 Blaze Away

GOING: Good. STALLS: Im 2f & 2m 2f - stands side: remainder inside

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best

Left-hand, tight, circular course, Not suitable for long-striding horses.

Left-hand, tight, circular course, Not suitable for long-striding horses.

Gousse is near center of city on A-94. Chester General station Im. ADMISSION: County Enclosure \$20 (sold out); Tumersails \$10; Dee Stand \$4; Course \$2. GAR PARE: \$1.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Stoute — 18 winners from 64 namers gives a success ratio of 28.1% and a profit to a \$1 level stake of 59.09; R Hamson — 14 winners, 64 namers, 21.9%, -58.33; J Gooden — 13 winners, 46 namers, 28.5%, +58.73; B Hills — 13 winners, 50 namers, 21.7%, +518.67.

***LEADING JOCKETS: Par Eddery — 16 winners, 59 rides, 27.1%, -55.39; W R Swinners — 14 winners, 54 rides, 25.9%, +518.06; D Holland — 12 winners, 59 rides, 20.3%, +520.44; J Carroll — 12 winners, 97 rides, 12.4%, -548.38.

BLINKERED FUST TIME: Tarondant (3.40); Marjorke Rose (4.40).

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: Golder Touch (4.10) won at Newmerlet on Fridey.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Darayden (3.40) sent 223 miles by Lady Herries from Angmering Park, W Sosses; Opera Raff (3.40) sent 206 miles by Miles G Kelleway from Whitcombe, Dotset; Ashanti Dancer (4.40) sent 207 miles by Miles G Kelleway from Whitcombe,

2.10 CHESHIRE REGIMENT HANDICAP (CLASS C) £12,000 added 3YO 1m 4f 66yds Penalty Value £8,968

SETTING: 9-2 Beneficer, 11-2 Three Hills, 6-1 Backgrop, Overruled, 7-1 Misky Bay, 8-1 Deciline Time, 12-1 ATS Alibi, Bellator, 14-1 Pleasant Surprise, 16-1 others 1896: Astrobite 3 8 5 M Hills 14-1 (8 Halls) 9-1

(CLASS D) £111,000 2PO ST PERISHTY VENUE £7,113

SHELINGTON HOUSE (USA) £12 (Richard Seen (Fine Parings)) P Cole 8 11 ... T Quitre 6

SHELINGTON HOUSE (USA) £12 (Richard Seen (Fine Parings)) P Cole 8 11 ... T Quitre 6

SHELINGTON HOUSE (USA) £12 (Richard 8 11 ... S D Williams 2

RANGE NEW £13 (USA) (LIST Carol P McPred) E Alson 8 11 ... S D Williams 2

RANGE NEW £13 (USA) (Riskours N Misicourn M Interests 8 11 ... Wheneve 7

GE RANGE NEW £13 (LIST College P Chapter) + Home 8 11 ... LIST AND SHELINGTON BANGE NEW MASTER (USA) RE SHELINGTON FOR SHELINGTON BANGE NEW AND SHELINGTON BE SHE

BETÜRG: 7-4 Raven Massier, 9-4 V_{BERT}, 5-1 Relationer Rein, 6-1 Berlington House, 7-1 Swino, 12-1 Majora, 14-1 Bold Africae, 20-1 others 1995: Night Purade 2 8 11 / Red 11-8 (P Chapple-Hyem) 5 can 1995: Night Purade 2 8 11 / Red 11-8 (P Chapple-Hyem) 5 can

VASARI, paped in the final strades by the more experienced Roman Imp at Sandown 1.1 days ago, was beenly backed to win that day, but the one who beat him is well regarded and there was a five-length gap back to the that, Burtlagton House. Paul Cole's charge shaced well enough from a bad draw at Sandown and was weak in the market. By America's top spiriter Housebuster, he is bound to this his doser to Vasan roday. Vasan may also be strached by Perar Chapple-Hyam's newcorner Raiven Massies, a son of Cork & Oriety warmer Shaffed from the tamily of Celes without interpolicy. The stable won this last year with Night Parade, who had the benefit of a prior run. Mark Johnston's newcorner Railabow Rain is out of a mare who won up to seven furions in America, but Bold Addican and Railes Hey are held by Vasan on the Sandown form, especially as both had the benefit of a recent run. Iswino is again up against it again after finding Rude Awekening too strong at Portiefract, while Mujowa's form is infestor to the principals.

3.10 SHADWELL STUD CHESHREONKS (CLASS A) (Listed) C4

detrany G Wagg 8 9

– 8 deciared – BETTENC: 9-4 Soler Crystal, 11-4 Shamazzie, 3-1 Alessandre, 9-2 Grysda, 10-1 Baronica, Smille N

The Prix Marcel Goussec form was boosted when Shake The Yoke garned her revenge over Miss Tahib on the same course last month and SOLAR CRYSTAL, third in the Longshamp

The Pit Marcel Bousset form was touced and SOLAR CRYSTAL, then in the Longonamp Mass Tahth on the same course lest month and SOLAR CRYSTAL, then in the Longonamp roce last October after her gusty all the-way win in the May Hill at Doncaster, will take plen-ity of beating today even with the 5th penetry. Considering she was rever at ease racing night-hand in Pans, Solar Crystal's performance to be beaten two lengths and a neck was a cracking effort, and sine's bred to stay every year of this this with her dam also throwing Lancashire Oaks witner State Crystal, Henry Ceol knows the capabilities of Alessandra af-

14213- SOLAR CRYSTAL (220) (Michael Poland H Gast 9 0...... 252-2 ALESSANDRA (12) (D) Deer) B HMs 8 9.....

11: SHENKOZZI, (1931) (not Harmgord) | Gosta 89.
2-3 SHEUR N Wishert (USA) (12) OF E Singsol P Chiptle Ham 89.
1023-1 TOUT A COUP (25) (E | Lode) G Check (vid 8 9.

212513- GRYADA (206) (Lord Howard de Walder) W lavis 8 9_ 0 UNIQA (19) (Secol Manans) C Britain 8 9_____

Walter, 12-1 others 1995: Dance A Dream 3 8 9 W R Swenburn 3-1 (M Stoute) 7 ran

3 BERBOCE CACH (Gestut Schie

C2-1 BENATOM (CSC) (CSC)

7 533,3-22 DEADLINE TIME (42) (85) (F) D Savill Lis M Riveley B 11...
8 34-1500 DEEDO (13) IC E Britani C Britani B 10...
9 0-03 MSSIT BHY (12) (Congr. Strawbridge) / Goston B 10...
10 3000-21 OVERSMAN (72) (F) Marquess de Monaglai J RicSenid B 7 11 55006-2 BELLATOR (22) (F) Robastoni G Balling 8 4 ...
10 0-00 BRCSMOODS (13) (F) R kink W Brisbourne B 0...

4.1.0 Wildwood Flower (nb)

4.40 Charlotte Corday

ing. Very few horses have run well since that meeting." The ground also provoked discontent at Newton Abbot yesterday where Nicky Henderson said: "It's firm and then

fall in a hole where it's almost bottomless." Henrietta Knight described it as: "The worst ground we've seen all season. It's very rough and bare down the

far side and the home straight you take three strides and you is firm with boggy patches." ter his newcomer Quota's win from this fally at Sandown 12 days ago. Second to Birt Shadayid in a newcomers' race at Ascot test July, Alexsandra was then offited against cotts at Newfoury and Haydock. The Sandom run will have improved her, but is the form good enough to best Solar Crystai? Shemoszie won small races over seven furlongs last term and is bred to stay this trip, while Gryadia comes from a fine staying family and gets a Slb pull for the sx-length beating by Solar Crystai in the May Hill. Sastilla N Washin, beaten five lengths into third by the colt Air Quest at Newfoury, is on faster ground for the first time, while Ger Casack's raider Youz A Coarp showed Improved form to win at the Curragh last month and Mick Kinane takes over from an apprentice. The surprise package in the race could be Geriff Wragg's Barnasica, who shaped meely beind the colts Samrasia and Clerkenwell at Kempon on the factur. From the Sandy of Matoto, Berentice is an interesting prospect. Lamda, a Soinet Star half-eister to last month's Earl Of Sefton winner Luso, made some late progress in Satin Beil's maiden at Newbury last month.

Selection: SÖLAR CRYSTAL ter his newcomer Ouota's win from this filly et Sandown 12 days exto. Second to Birit Sha

1	101	TOTE CHESTER CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS B) £50,000 added 2m 2f 147/ds Penalty Value £36,329
L	2.40	added 2m 2f 147yds Penalty Value £36,329
1	0441-24	DARAYDAN (7) (P D Sault) Lady Hernes 4 9 10 X Darley 8
2	012-3	CORRADRY (19) (RF) (K Abdulla) H Caci 4 9 0
3	3/8200-6	LINPAC WEST (46) (Ns Kin Jansen) D Nicholis 10 8 12Alex Greates 9
ă.		SEASONAL SPLEMOOUR (32) (D.A. Johnson) M Proc 6 8 10 Negret 4
5		RUMANA CREST (11) (C) (Scisule Hate) M Strute 4 8 10
6		KADASTROF (FR) (19) (A P Paton) R Diction 6 8 8
7		NOUTHIR (FIR (11) ERF) (Ed Westman) R Hollinshead 5.8 6
Ė		THAL SANAH (22) (N CLIFOR) D Williams 4 8 5
9		BLAZE AWAY (USA) (47) (Paul Melion) Balding 5 8 5
孤		TRADICIOT (229) (D) (Marquesa de Morandio) J RoGerald 984X Felica 3
		TAROLEANT (11) (C) (G A Famoon) R Woodhouse 9 8 1
12		OPERA BUFF (20) (B Treducted Miss G Kelleway 5 7 12 N Adams 1
13		SEA VICTOR (11) (I David Abel) I L Hams 4 7 12 JF Edwa 13 V
14	00 0050	
15	4112-24	
16	665005-	
17	14-60	ANGLESEY SEA VIEW (25) INJS P Howard A Ballay 7 7 10 D Whight (2) 18
	600111	

18 600111- MERIT (186) (HRI Prince Faird Salman) P Cole 4 7 10 Quitan 12

- 18 doclared
Minimum weight 7st 10th. The handlap weight Haner 7st 9b, Anglesey See View 7st 9b, Merit 7st 6b.
BETTING: 11-2 Fujiyama Crest, Marti, Traingion, 9-1 Steen Amay, Opera Buff, 10-1 Daraydan, 11-1
Corradint, 12-1 Seasonal Spitendour, Dechanged, 14-1 Kadestrof, 20-1 Nordert, See Yebre, Thaljeensh, 40-1 Anglesey See View, Liepet West, Henrit, Taroutent, 150-1 Evezio Rafio
1995: Top Cees 5 8 8 K Fation 8-1 (Mrs J Rarristen) 18 ren

FORM GUIDE

A Henry Cacil number in a Chester Cup has to be worth a second look and CORRADINI is A Henry Cecil numer in a Chester Cup has to be worth a second look and CORRADINI is back on a more suitable surface after humping 10st in the soft at Newbury on his respearance. Eased when held then, Correcting meets the soft-ground winner Kedestard on 11bb better terms, and he looked a potential decent stayer when beeing Crystal Blade at York last June. Merit, who look advantage of a most larnent handcap mark when notching a har-inck last backend, will have been well prepared by Paul Cole for this task and was significantly one of the Eavountes in the ante-post lasts. The front-curring Pullyaman Crest was held up on his reappearance when a good third to Orchestre Stall at Roon (Buchanged fourth on same terms). Frankle Detton knows him well and the gelding was an easy winner from Welshmen on the course in August. Denaydes has pleased with two runs against better cless this term and he's only Sh higher after winning a decent handcap at Newmanket last backend. Trainglot is on a good mark (3lb lower) for a Cesarevitch winner. He has been in the form of his life over hundles, rounding off his unbeaten spell at the Cheitanham Festoral, and with 8st, 4lb cannot be ruled out. See Welcher (tip too sharp last their and Opera Buff (from in-form stable) are lively outsiders, while we haven't yet seen the best of Anglassey Sea View.

189th Astrolate 3 8 5 M Hills 14-1 (8) Hells) 9 ran FORM GUIDE. Piersty in with a shout here, and Milesky Bay will be a populiar choice after showing up well in maydens — the latest when a staying-on third to Luca Cumant's Freequent at Beverley. This is a tough race, but Misky Bay is bred for the trip and could have been let in lightly. Benastom is bound to make it a true test, as he has done at Portletract (second to Warbrook) and at Tursh (held on from the demoted Clerkenwell) 19 days ago. He ran over 10 furlongs as a juvenile and should improve further. Three Highs is from last year's winning stable and rates a sinp at the weights on his juvenile third to Silver Dome and Sacho. In	was held up on his reappearance when a good third to Orchestre Stall at Ripon (Durchauspad fourth on same termin). Frankle Deton knows him wail and the galding was an easy winner from Weishmen on the course in August. Deraydess has pleased with two runs against better class this term and he's only 5th legistra after winning a decent handcap at Newmarket jast backend. Traingladt is on a good mark (3th lower) for a Cesarewitch Weiner. He has been in the form of his life over hundles, rounding off his unbeaten spell at the Cheltanham Festval, and with 8st, 4th carnot be ruled out. See Victor (no to sharp last time) and Opera Buff (from in-form stable) are lively outsiders, while we haven't yet shen the best of Anglessey Sea View.
bed ground at Doncester on his reappearance, his finishing effort behind Prize Gwing at Newmarket suggests this extra quarter-mile will suit. That remark also applies to BACK-DROP, who won a weak Pointerfact maden a formight ago in fine style efter being squeezed for room in a middling race. Rated a slow-learner by connections, Backdop tooked a decent cold when seeing davight and will come on a bundle for the expendice. The well-regarded Overruled started favourize on her juvenile debut when unplaced to Ruzhama at Newmarket. She recovered the losses in good style from Nassern Alsahar at Doncester alterwards and Mack Kanne is booked. Pleaseast Sarprise is from a springle painty and he rurs beyond seven tutongs for the first time, write recent Newbury winner ATS Alfabl is on laster ground in a stronger race. The visor is back on Deedline Time, but he cannot beat time; hills on a line drivough Jackson Hill. Bellaton, second to Dombey at Kemporo (Im 11), is a sure future witner but probably not today on this ground. Selection: BACKOROP	4.10 BOODLE & DUNTHORNE DIAMOND HANDICAP (CLASS C) £15,000 3YO 67 Pen Value £10,710 (CLASS C) £10,000 3YO 67 Pen Value £10,710 (CLASS C) £10,000 3 33420 (WHITUE BOOK £2) (C Bay Hors Rang Syndows & 7 Boom 9 7 Jackson 8 4 0631-2 (WHIDWOOD FLOWER £20) (D) (G Howert-Synd) R Herron 9 5 Pen Eddiny 6 31 ARR WING £20) (P) H Bress (Hologa Lib) M Tomphins 9 4 R 1985 9 12013 (WEIMARN WISSER £0) (D) (G) Weimarn Lid R Holinshead 9 2 R 1980 4 7 02-1 YOTAL ALDOF £20) (Total (Bloodback) Lid) W Hagger 8 13 M WING £20) (D) (G) Weimard White & Co Lid) P Earns 8 13 Flynch (S) 11 M 1885 7 8 150-600 (WELL LID) £50) (C) (D) Weimard White & Co Lid) P Earns 8 13 Flynch (S) 11 D) Whight (S) 2
2.40 EVELYN DELVES BROUGHTON MAIDEN STAKES (C4. (CLASS D) £10,000 2Y0 5f Penalty Value £7,113	10 622420 MONTRESTAR (4) (John Puglir P Evens 6 9

13 0-54465 DOWN 1911 ANCIONE (18) (Ten Par Communications Presented - 13 declared - 14 declared - 15 declared - 16 declared - 17 declared - 17

1995: Go Haver Gof ? 9 7 G Carter 100-30 fit J Naughton) 12 nm FORM GUIDE.

ANGAAR, housed in the No 1 stati, can emissible lest year's winner by delying 9st 7tb. Angair may have been fortunese to beat Music Gold (stumbled close home) at levels of Lingline lest separation of the sevel of the carte size after a slow start to beat older rhash in a decent time. Franke Dettorl is an immersion poolong in view of his past wins on Weetboard's Weigh. Air Wing was getting 10th when he beat Music Gold four langths at Sendown last September. His stable is having a fine run, but he could just do with more cut in the ground. William Hagges is also enjoying a time run and Total Alsoof is another who can improve further after beating a modest not at Bevertey on her reappearance. She will resish this state furthing and only a britanian ride by Detton dienved her at Haydock lest August. Wildewood Flower, just held by Galfine at Newmarket three weeks ago. This to be on the short-list. She should improve enough for the run to confirm the form with the close third, Weetman's Weigh. Mythons Mistalace, well drawn and from a stable that does well here, and dual Equitrack winner Princety Sound (Sib better with Wildwood Flower), are others with claims.

Selection: ANGAAR

SEFTON MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (CLASS D) £10,000 added

4.40 SEF TON NUMBER 17,067 ASHANII DANCER (222) (Als 8 Bell M Haynes 8 11. AUNITY JANE (15) (Paul H Locke) B Hist, 8 11.......... BOLLIN JOANNE (15) G.aty Westwork T Easterby 8 11., BONERY SAPPHIRE (15) (P T Tebungto R Hannon 8 1). __M Birch Dame O'Heil (3) 9 O BOMBAY SAPPHIRE CLS) (P T relanged R Hanon 8 11.

O COVERED GIBL (15) M I Legal S Hits 8 11.

SHUM (158) (Paul Asheels) H Tromon Jones 8 11.

HILLIA (158) (Paul Asheels) H Tromon Jones 8 11.

HILLIA (158) (Paul Asheels) (256) (S R Collete) 1 Hits 8 11.

MARJONEE ROSE (36) (Linscoln Ltd) A Bailey 8 11.

MARJONEE ROSE (36) (Linscoln Ltd) A Bailey 8 11.

SANDHILL (15) (A Mondata) Gooden 8 11.

TILLYAND (R E Sangson) P Chapter-Horn 8 11.

12 (Freezed) - 12 declared BETTRAC: 3-1 Sandrift, 4-1 Charlotte Contey, 9-2 Austry Jane, 5-1 Bollin Joseph, 8-1 Tillyard, 12-1

Rection Dancer, 14-1 others 1999: Dream Tickel 3 8 11 W R Sweburn 6-5 (M Square) 12 con

1995: Oream Idea 3 B 11 W K SWIDDIM 0-5 (in Square 12 ma PORM GLEDE CHARLOTTE CORDAY, that to Taxasaded at Newmarket, is preferred to Aupty Jame, sec CHARLOTTE COMDAY, fred to tavisated at Newmented, is pretented to Austy Jases, sec-ond to Sann Bell at Newbury, Geoff Wringig has a decent strike-rate on this course and Char-lotte Cordey, apprentice ridden when the stable's second string at Hewmented, is bound to Improve. Michael Hills takes over the steering today. Aurity Jane was in a newcomen' race at Newbyry and looked the winner until Sasin Bell swooped. Her half-stare, Asian Jane, won over this trip, Sandmill also shaped well in the Newbury race after a slow start. She was forced to switch when making her challenge and is not out of it despire limiting seven length behind Aurity Jane, She was not knocked about that day. Peter Chapple-Hyam introducts a potentially decent sort in Tillyand.

0/4-5 DE-VEERS CURRE (12) R Fisher 499______ Fortune 7 CHERSTON

2.00 Astrolabe 2.30 Birequest 3.00 Master Toby 3.30 Convoy 4.00 Certain Angle 4.30 Macedonas

GOING: Good to Pinn.

Left-hand, undulating course with run-in of 240yds.

Course is on 4468. Chepstow station (Cardiff – Gloucester line)
Im. ADMIGSION: Cash £14; Tazersalls £10 (OAPs £5). GAR
PARE: Free. SIS

BLRHEEFED FIRST TURE: Ath Cheansaithe, Empert's Princess & Fleasant Surprise (200), Birequest (2-30), Lady Poly (3-30), Rise Souter & Junction Twentytwo (both visored, 3-30), Jarrenh (visored, 4-30).

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Legal Drama (2-00) has been sent 164 miles by John Berry from Newmarket, Sulfolt; Normoud Lase (2-30) sent 161 miles by C Smith from Temple Bruer, Lincolnshire.

2.00 BALMORAL JUVENILE MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 4YO 2m 110yds (CLASS E) £3,000 arcided 470 2m 110yds
ASTROLARE; M Brodley 11.0 _______ Ray Leaks (3)
32 AIB CHENNWITHE (200) I Reads 11.0 ______ Rhy Leaks (2)
32 BORN 10 FEBSE PHONS (11.0 _______ R Democable (3)
BORN 10 FEBSE PHONS (11.0 _______ R Democable (3)
BORN 10 FEBSE PHONS (11.0 _______ R Democable (3)
3P LITTLE SHEFFORD (21.0 Wilders 11.0 ______ R Democable (3)
3STUMMUTE (80) M Maggandgr 11.0 ______ R Democable (3)
3STUMMUTE (80) M Maggandgr 11.0 ______ R Democable (3)
3STUMMUTE (80) M Maggandgr 11.0 ______ R Democable (3)
4NNS LIDDEE (165) CR Berned (10.9 ______ Mr J Benedick
0 MNTS LIDDEE (165) CR Berned (10.9 ______ Mr F McCoy
P LEGAL DRAMAS (80.3 Jun Bern 10.9 ______ J Lewender P LEGAL DRAMA (6) John Beny 10 9 O HUPERT'S PRINCESS (12) H Heyner, 10 9 ...

— 12 deciared —
BETTING: 11.4 Piecesust Suprise, 3-1 Astrobabe, 5-1 Burn To Pieces, 11.
2 Mh G-19nonithe, 9-1 Spumente, 12-1 Little Shefford, 15-1 others 2.30 BUCKINGHAM NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 110yris

5 200SP WHISTLING BUCK (13) (67) R Ruse S 11 2 D CTSMINNER
6 00006 BREQUEST (12) C Varm 5 12 2 R Democrat
7 PG5 LINE STREET BLUES (880) S CIVISION 5 10 7 W Minrothe
8 3-24631 PAR OF MCISS (80) (0) T1 Vargino 6 10 4 A P McCey
9 002AF-0 ROTAL GLINT (80) H Hoyer 7 10 3 G Lyton
10 36-322 PHLACE PARADE (12) G item 6 10 0 D Sophie Minchel (6)
11 06UG7 HORSENU LASS (1,078) C Smith 8 10 0 W Ranger
12 LIFGAS SAMEEL (6.07 Googs 6 10 0 R Johnson
13 0F0400 LORONNIO (65) (0) 0 Corey 5 10 0 R Johnson
13 0F0400 LORONNIO (65) (0) 0 Corey 5 10 0 R Johnson
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13 0F0400 LORONNIO (65) (0) 0 Corey 5 10 0 R Johnson
15 Demons
16 Parade
10 Johnson Neight Paloce Parade & Normead Lass
92 10h, Sabed 9st 7h, Loronjo 9st 3h.
BETBRC 9-2 No Paylon, 5-4 Pair Of Jacks, Rectionships, 6-1 Markson Proident, 8-1 Tempretalign, Riroquest, 10-1 Whickling Buck, 14-1 others

3.00 BURGES SALMON NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 3f 110yds

P Fessey 65 13 8

- 4 rings and -		
BETTING: 6-4 Master Toby, 9-4 Cracing Mea, 4-1 Derring Bad, 5-1 Maner Rhymn		
3	3.30	SANDRINGHAM SELLING HANDICAP HUR- DLE (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2m 4f 110yds
1	102F40	CORNOY (12) (3) C Mann 6 11 13 R Descriptor B
2		POX CHAPEL (5) (0) R Judies 9 11 11 R Massey (5)
3		THE BLACK MIDNER (27) (CD) M Pipe 8 11 7 LOWER
4	543455	COURT JOHER (12) Mes H Knaft 4 11 5 Mr J Collecty (3)
5	13F-000	JUNCTION TWENTY WO (12) C Broad 6 10 10 _W Marshan V
6	P90040	WASSLS MELUON (5) T Morror 10 10 9 Limence B
7	681735	ROSE-6 (90) R Stronge 6 10 7R Johnson
8	146000	MISS SOUTER (7) H S Hose 7 10 7 A P McCov V
8	200P/P4	KUTOWN (54) Mrs B Warms 6 10 3 E Bytton
10	5230P0	(12) B Liewellyn 4 10 2
11	OPPOGE	BARLORD PROVICE (7) Miss J Buer 8 10 2. Souble Military (5) B
12	P-P0660	GORT (5) J Hammon 8 10 0
13	COPPOO	NORDIC CROWN (12) M Pips 5 10 0
14	Q660UU-	GREEN'S GAME (S11) N R Mitchell 8 10 0
15	QFPP00	5296AZEE (32) 8 Store 8 10 CV Slettery 9
16	350056	COOCHE (27) R Bales 7 10 0
47	AMERON	MISCELLS LITTE ON N. Thomson 11 40 C

31402F CERTIAM ANGLE (ZT) (D) P Hobbs 7 10 0 _____A P McCoy FIP-11P BLACK CHURCH (13) (S) (SF) R Rose 10 10 0_0 O Sulbac

- Gedared - Minimum: 10st. True handing weight: Cerain Angle & Black Church Set 12th.

BETTING: 11-4 Certain Angle, 3-1 Pastein, 7-2 James Pigg, 11-2 Black Church, Nickie Jos 4.30 SOUTH WEST AMATEURS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,650 added 3m

Meninum weight: 10st. Thue http://decision.com/lane/10st Eb., Forums Gien 10st Eb., Antid Antine Ser 13th, Articition Set Eb., Seminole Princess Set Ab. BETTING: 6-4 Opent, 6-1 Zeminah, 7-1 Spring Graes, 6-1 Macadomas, 10-1 Quiet Daws, Carrie Dancer, 12-1 Juryanh, 16-1 others

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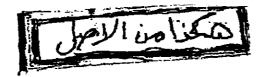
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'96 RACE **SCHEDULE**

May 19 Spanish QP

June 16 French GP June 30 British GP

July 14

July 28:

August 11

Belglan GP

August 25

Italian GP

September 8

Portuguese GP

September 22

Japanese GP

October 13

PLAY FORMULA 1 REAM TEA



Michael Schumacher keeps an eye on Damon Hill at the start of the San Marino Grand Prix, but David Coulthard is about to surprise them both

The latest **scores** and **results**

going to be McLaren's number two dri-

ver this year. Despite Mika Hakkinen's

serious accident at the end of last sea-

sen, the young Scot was expected to

be exposed by the Finn's superior

ormal service has been re- second step of the podium is as Hill will be mightily relieved. After the upsets at the Nurburgring, where the Williams team leader did practically nothing right on race day, at Imola he did precious little wrong, biding his time early in the race as Michael Schumacher and David Coulthard fought over the lead, then reeling off fast laps to take advantage of his team's superior strategy as his fuel load lightened and he swooped into the lead. This was truly a team triumph, a tactical victory of the sort that so often eluded Williams last year.

Michael Schumacher was fortunate to finish second - indeed, fortunate to finish at all, with a seized front wheel on his Ferrari. But the

sumed as soon as possible. far as he has climbed so far this and Dream Team man- season, and he cannot be ac-£25m price tag. Nor has his teammate, Eddie Irvine, entirely justified his £18m price tag, though an uneventful fourth place at Imola topped up his points score. Better value in the future may be another £18m man, David Coulthard, whose pace in the early stages of Sunday's race was astonishing. The young Scot seems to have developed the invaluable knack of the demon start: two races running he has been off the grid and heading into the distance while other drivers have still been searching for first gear. Having led in San Marino, can he win in Monaco? It is certainly a difficult place to pass, so

a fast start is vital.

But things have turned out the other way round. While Hakkinen endured another miserable weekend, spinning and suffering the indignity of a scrap with renta driver Pedro Diniz, Coulthard got a dream start and led the race in commanding style. Pedro Diniz once again proved fantastic value for £4m, mixing it during the race with the likes of Mika Hakkinen, who in Dream

Team terms should be well out of

his reach. Imola is a relatively un-

challenging environment for the

inexperienced driver: Monaco is not, and whether or not Pedro will be able to keep his Ligier out of the scenery in the Principality is a moot point.

DRIVER OF THE DAY: David Coulthard

Lastly a word of praise to Luca Badoer and the plucky Forti crew,

Things started to go wrong at Coulthard's not as good as his first, and he began to experience some difficulty in changing gear. But still he plugged away in fourth place, and stood every chance of a second consecutive podium finish when, on the 44th lap, he pulled off with total hydraulic failure. But it had been a stirring performance. McLaren are rapidly rebuilding their tarnished reputation, and must be hoping to combine pace with reliability. When they do.

> who got their new yellow contraption to the finish line on its debut. The car may not be very quick, but it's a damn sight easier on the eye than their previous bloated motor.



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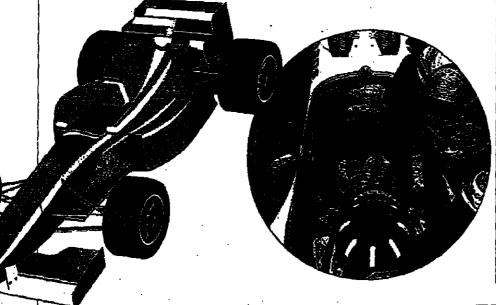
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in the south of France for The Dream Team manager with the highest the most exhilarating experience of your life. number of points at the end of the Grand Prix The school specialises in F1 courses and provides Championship season will win our top prize - a drive all the racewear and **Instruction you will** in a 650bhp F1 car. need for a day driving F1 You will be flown to the and other single seat cars. AGS team's training school



Overall Top 50 Dream Teams

Coulthard will be a winner.

Two teams are in joint 1st postition with 233 points, eighteen teams are in joint 2nd position with 224 points and thirty teams are in joint 3rd position with 223 points.

1 Racing Mania 1 The Hillmans

2 Fru-Fru People 6 2 Schney's Shadow

2 Fox's Flyers 2 Team Mac

2 Spore Heity 2 Curtis Cruisers

2 Ocean

2 The Aky Spondies 2 F Juan

2 Ice

2 F1 Olly 2 ADS Grand Prix Racing

2 Doole's Dealings 2 Le-Sport

2 Points Make Prizes Racing

2 Settles Follies 2 Damon's Demons

2 Tucker's Try Hard

3 Phil's Fliers

3 The 7 Percenters 3 Follow Me Please

Racing 3 Drack

3 Hill's Decline

3 Stagnent 3

3 Smith Sizzalers

3 Emily Zoom

Racing UK

3 Track Suit

3 Eagle Racing

3 Skidlids

3 Team Shambles

3 Overdrive

3 Ecurie Hard Bag 3 Diesel Dreamers

3 Vernotti Racing 3 Cockney Racers

3 Rice F1

£1m

£26m

£18m

£12m

£10m

£8m 57 Yamaha

£4m 58 Hart

£2m

50 Forti

ENGINES

51 Renault

52 Ferrari £15m

53 Mercedes

54 Peugeot

55 Mugen

56 Ford V10

59 Ford Zetec V8

60 Ford ED V8

12

14

23

3 Bryan's Bullets 3 Nicstone Racing

3 Jack Vurchell Ford

3 Inglis Team

3 Sicol Racing 3 Team Muttley

3 Nathan

3 Suths

3 Ollie's Team

3 Downhill Racer

3 Charlton Lamb 3 Dave's Drivers

Grand Prix Shopping List

POIN	TS SCORE
DRIVERS	
£25m	E S
1 M Schum	acher 24
2 J Alesi 3 D Hill	6 32
; 1.20M	
4 G Berger	19
5 D Coulthe	ard 9 15
6 E Irvine 7 J Villeneu £13m	ve 5
i 8 M Hakkin	
9 H H Frend £10m	izen -2
10 M Brune 11 R Barrio	
12 J Herbe	
13 M Salo	-5
14 P Larny £4m	9
15 P Diniz 16 U Katay	5 ama 0
17 J Versta	ppen 0 .
18 0 Panis £3m	•
19 L Bados 20 R Rosss	
21 A Monte	ermini · -6
22 G Fisich	
23 V Sospii 24 T Marqu	es 0
25 F Lagoro	æ 0 0
27 T Inoue	•
28 M Blund	
29 J-C Boul	0
31 K Burt 32 E Collard	. 6
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£20m 40 Benettor	1 14
41 Williams £18m	20
42 Ferrari £15m	16
43 McLaren	77
44 Sauber	-4 11
45 Jordan £10m	
46 Ligier £6m	12
47 Tyrreli £5m	-5
48 Arrows	-1
40 Minardi	_2 1

JOIN OVER 24,000 READERS WHO ARE PLAYING FORMULA 1 DREAM TEAM

apoi FA CUP COUNTDOWN: Saturday's finalists met at Wembley in 1977. Jim White recalls a famous Manchester United victory

Liverpool the losers in Docherty's finest hour

Hyperbole and Tommy Docherty are not unaccustomed bedfellows. In 1976, af-Manchester United's feeble and enfeebling performance in the Cup final against Southampton, Docherty sought to pacify the 250,000 fans who filled the centre of Manchester to welcome back his team of losers with some soothing words: "We'll be back next year," he announced from the balcony of the Town Hall in Albert Square, "and this time we'll win it.

It seemed a wildly optimistic gesture, flying in the face of all ailable evidence, chance or expectation and thus entirely characteristic of Docherty. His team's early form in 1976/77 merely underlined how unlikely a boast it was. The season before, just promoted from the Second Division, a young United team had played with aban-don, finishing third in the League. In the autumn of 1976, however, it looked as though they were to be found out. Lightweight in midfield, eccentric in defence, by December they were well off the championship pace.

Docherty was advised by the press that his defence needed tightening, so he went out and bought Jimmy Greenhoff, a wily inside-forward from Stoke instead. It was a move as cunning as some of Greenhoff's off-theball runs, the new player immediately earned his place in United fans' affection scoring at will in an FA Cup run which increasing) began to appear pre-ordained. Liverpool, meanwhile, were

at the beginning of 12 years of domestic and European domination. John Toshack, the poet laureate of football ("Easter time is very vital. That's when we decide the title") had gone from the season before, but elsewhere the team was stronger than ever. Terry McDermott, the role model for Harry Enfield's scousers, ran affairs with Ray Kennedy and the young Jimmy Case. Up front the permapermed Kevin Keegan, in his last year at Liverpool before deserting for the big money avail-



it's there: Lou Macari (right) and Jimmy Greenhoff celebrate "their" winning goal in the 1977 FA Cup final against Liverpool at Wembley

Steve Heighway. The defence was based on Tommy Smith and Emlyn Hughes. Off the pitch they loathed each other ("I thought he was a right twat, as it happens," the ever couth Smith was recently quoted as saying) but on it, none were allowed past without compromise or a good kicking.

By May of 1977, with that part of the country that was not festooned in safety pins prepar-ing (it seems incredible now) for an outburst of royalism to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Liverpool were already crowned the best team in Britain, League champions and in the final of the European able on the continent, was Cup, the FA Cup final was set partnered by David Johnson and up as the second leg of a punches that might have been

substantial treble. All that lay in their path was a young United side and their mouthy manager, who had seen off Southampton, Aston Villa and Leeds on a character-building tour to the final.

Back in 1977 the rivalry between the fans of Liverpool and United had yet to degenerate into the levels of over-wrough hostility which later involved CS gas attacks and mass knife fights. Although the geographical proximity meant that sizeable bands of followers would regularly make the trip to each other's grounds, providing the opportunity for large-scale confrontations, there was nothing particularly bilious behind any

thrown: it was simply routine in United's in the certain knowledge

Thus on the trip down to as meekly as they had the year Liverpool were the best team in Britain.

All that lay in their path was a young

United side and their mouthy manager

that their team could not perform

London the atmosphere in service stations and on the platforms of Crewe and Euston was charged with a kind of grudging mutual respect (though in truth United had a lot more to respect in Liverpool than vice versa). Both sets of supporters seemed relaxed - Liverpool's in the con-

before. In the dressing rooms, too, the United players at least

were in the right frame of mind. "I think we could have won the League the year before," remembers Martin Buchan, the United captain. "But we got distracted by the Cup. Then, on that day, certain players felt all win it. Against Liverpool, you Cup final. United could barely believe their luck. Early in the would never adopt that kind of econd haif there was a cluster of goals: Pearson for United,

Lou Macari, United's busy midfielder, agrees that minds were properly focused by the opposition. "I think it helped us ormously that we were the underdogs," he says. "I cannot remember Manchester United being the underdogs ever but in that game, when you looked at the two team sheets, you had to accept the bookies' assessment." It transpired, however, that Bob Paisley had failed to make his magnificent team take each game as it comes.

Liverpool played as if distracted by the more substantial prize on offer the following Wednesday in the European award of a golden boot trophy for the player who scored the winner," he recalls. "I thought:

boot'. I was on my way to the dressing room when I saw Jimmy Greenhoff carrying it and I thought to myself: Why have they given it to him? Maybe he's just holding on to it for me for safe keeping.' So I went up to him and asked him what he was doing with it. He thought I was taking the mickey, but I honestly didn't know until that point what had happened." Liverpool's disappointment

That'il do nicely, Cup win-ner's medal and the golden

at losing out on the double was assuaged four days later when they won the European Cup in Rome. But United, as was their habit, ensured they stole most of the summer headlines.

Tommy Docherty, parading cround Wembley with the Cup lid on his head as the United fans - as ever magnanimous in victory - chanted "Liverpool, Liverpool", thought his position as club manager was unassail-able. He had rebuilt United from the dismal shambles they became after Matt Busby retired and had been rewarded with a new four-year contract worth the then unheard of sum of £25,000 a year. The FA Cup final build-up on the BBC that day showed a man glowing in confidence. At the team's hotel he was filmed conducting a pre-rehearsed comedy routine with Gordon Hill, ribbing Lou Macari about his un-footballer like tce-total habit, and sitting down at breakfast chatting amiably with Laurie Brown, his team physio. No one at the club realised that Docherty was conducting an affair with Brown's wife Mary, and a fortnight after the Cup final he announced (at a press conference while wearing a black eye) that he was setting up home with her. A month later, United sacked him: Matt Busby, it seemed, could not bear to see the image of his club so badly shaken.

And thus it transpired that Docherty's comments on the balcony of the Town Hall on his return with the Cup that May were less prophetic than the year before.

"This," he said, brandishing the trophy in the direction of the

No worries for Warwickshire Bailey ensures perfect record

Cricket

HENRY BLOFELD reports from Northampton Nottinghamshire 232-9 Northamptonshire 236-4 Northants win by six wickets

An outstanding innings of 115 not out by Rob Bailey, their new captain, which contained many exciting strokes, made sure that Northamptonshire maintained their unblemished record in this year's Benson and Hedges Cup. They have now won all three of their qualifying matches so far. Bailey put Nottinghamshire in

to hat and, on a pitch which had

berthy, with 3 for 38, which were also his best, kept them to a more than manageable total.

lost two early wickets when Capel caught behind pushing squarer to the boundary.

He and Mal Loye put on 59 lively bounce, Paul Taylor, whose at the off spinner, Richard

5 for 45 were his best figures in Bates. Kevin Curran came in er drive had brought him three MICHAEL AUSTIN Even so, Northamptonshire

Alan Fordham was yorked by Andy Pick who then had David forward to one which left him a fraction. Bailey had already announced himself with a drive through extra cover off Pick and a lovely force off the back foot which went a little

in 16 overs for the third wicket before Loye was Ibw sweeping

wicket, also off Bates, but by then it was too late to make any difference. Bailey faced 43 balls

for six. When Curran was 15, Bates failed to hold on to a fierce return catch off a powerful drive and, at 40, he should have been caught at deep mid-

and hit two sixes and 11 fours. Nottinghamshire had earlier made a bad start, losing both openers to Paul Taylor for only 13. Paul Johnson was third out at 46 when he tried to pull Curtly Ambrose and skied the ball

to mid-wicket. Paul Pollard had already played some fine strokes and a square cut, a pick up and a cov-

and Ashley Metcalfe added 92 in 22 overs before Penberthy who howled well in the middle of the innings, had Pollard caught off a square cut at backward point. After that, the innings never regained the same momentum

■ Ireland's losing streak continued when they were demolished by Gloucestershire for a third successive Benson and Hedges Cup defeat of the season. Gloucestershire's victory was set up by Tony Wright and 21-year-old Robert Cunliffe who put on 221 runs for the second wicket. Wright's innings of 123 earned him the gold award.

reports from Edgbaston Derbyshire 193 Warwickshire 194-2 Warwicks win by eight wickets

This mis-match projected Warwickshire into the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals with a lavish victory with more than half of their overs remaining.

Neil Smith, the gold award winner, made 80 from 53 balls as he shared their record opening partnership in the competition's 25-year history of 162 from 19 overs with Nick Knight. Shaun Pollock, the South African Test all-rounder, returned 5 for 38, while War- Derbyshire's rapidly dwindling is mutual. Derbyshire fell to 27 ded Knight scoring 91 from 72 balls as Derbyshire's attack suffered indignities. Devon Malcolm conceded 54 runs

from five overs, illustrating that maybe the county game does have logical first and second divisions, as supported by Dennis Amiss, Warwickshire's chief executive.

This was still the cup and it seemed like it - some upstart challenging the team that had won five titles in the previous two years. All was well when Dean Jones and John Owen added 105 in 24 overs for the third wicket. A challenging to-tal of 260 seemed feasible, yet

lights including meant that their last six for 2 after winning the toss, loswickets tumbled for 61 runs. The match finished with a

Case equalising for Liverpool and then, three minutes later,

Macari flailed at a ball laid into

his path by Jimmy Greenhoff.

His thrash was heading for a

point midway between goal post

and corner flag when it took a

diversion off Greenhoff's chest

and arced comically into the

goal, past a wrong-footed Ray Clemence. Macari thought he

had scored and celebrated ac-

cordingly. His cheeriness lasted

"At the time there was an

iong after the final whistle.

leg-side delivery from Kim Barnett costing four wides but the contest had ended much earlier, Jones had even employed his own off-spin as, at 55 for 0, the new captain, with a hands-on approach, put himself willingin the firing line. Predictably, it failed because Warwickshire are the archetypal professionals as a unit. Not many England honours to show for their collective talents but a players' cooperative that verges on the unbeatable.

Pollock already loves Edgbaston and the crowd's feeling ing Barnett and Chris Adams to catches at the wicket from Pollock's bowling, the second from a screaming lifter.

John Owen, Derby-born, a rarity nowadays for a player appearing for that county, responded to the Jones clarion-call with 49 from 79 balls before being bowled, giving himself room for the cut, by Neil Smith.

de constant de con

Much depended on Phillip DeFreitas, but his brief innings ended in a familiar way, a lofted catch, as Derbyshire departed from the competition that they won three summers

Benson & Hedges Cup Durbam v Minor Counties CHESTER-LE-STREET: Dur

MONOR COUNTIES "S J Dean & Brown R J Evans & Scott & Betts ... Total (48.2 overs) 157
Feat: 1-18, 2-24, 3-32, 4-61, 5-109, 6-115, 7-118, 8-131, 9-156.

Score at 15 overs 50 for 3. Bowling: Brown 10-4-16-1; Betts 9-2-36-2; Bolling 8-0-22-2; Foster 9-2-0-28-1; Colling-wood 10-1-28-3; Bernbridge 2-0-15-1.

Leicestershire v Lancashire

LEICESTER: Lancastile won by eligit Maddy c Hegg b Martin . Nixon c and b Waddnso

) E R Gallian c Semmons b Mullaby

Score at 15 overs: 37 for 2. Bowling: Mutaby 10-2-17-1; Milrs 10-2-28-1; Parsons 10-0-37-0; Pierson 9-0-57-0; Smmons 3-0-13-0; Matidy 1-0-11-0; Wells 2-0-10-0. Umpires: B J Mayer and M J Kitchen. ireland v Gloucestershire

(Gioucestershire won toss) DUBLIN: Gioucestershire w GLOUCESTERSHIRE A J Wight run out.

R I Devision o Doek b Patterson
R J Curlette not out.
A Symonds b Patterson
T H C Hancock not out.
Technas (b4, b10, w13, m81)
Total (for 3, 50 overs)
Falt: 1-26, 2-247, 3-257.
Tild met her hit W Allers Did not bat: M W Aleyne, *TR C Russell, R P Davis, A M Smith, J Laws, K E Cooper. Score at 15 overs: 63 for 1. Sowling: Patterson 10-0-55-2; McChum Bowling: Patterson 10-0-55-2; McCnum 10-0-63-0; Mcore 2-0-11-0; Gillespie 5-0-17-0; Harrison 9-0-42-0; Berson 7-0-47-0; Doak 3-0-20-0; Lawis 4-0-39-0. J S Warke low b Cooper D Hamson low b Smith .

otal (40.1 overs) ______140 at 1-0, 2-16, 3-29, 4-71, 5-71, 6-76, 7-85, 9-86, 5-132. Score at 15 overst 37 for 3. Besiding Cooper 10-1-26-1; Smith 10-3-23-3; Laws 10-1-31-3; Davis 5.1-0-20-1; Alleyne 5-0-30-1. Umpirest 8 Dudieston and G Sharp. Northemptonshire v Nottingha (Northemptonshire won (oss)

C M (1989) to legistry b Pertherthy
PR Pollard c Emburgy b Pertherthy
Py Inhuson c Monagomene b Anthross
A A Metcelfe c Loye b Pertherthy
SS
C I. Carns G Fordham b Teylor
LS
H M M Noon c Monagomere b Pemberthy
10
R T Bates b Taylor
18
R A Pick b Taylor
7
D B Pennett not old
14
J A Afford not out
12
Latras (b.1, th.12, w.1., nb21
222
Felt: 1-8, 2-13, 3-48, 4-141, 5-183, 6-184,
7-202, 8-227, 9-228,
Soore at 15 overse 64 for 3,
Pendeng Anthrose 10-0-32-1; Taylor 9-2-45-5;
Penherthy 10-1-38-3; Cartan 10-0-53-0; Embursy 10-0-42-0; Batesy 1-0-9-0,
NORTHAMPTONESHIRE ORTHANDTONSHIRE

O Noon b Pick *R J Balley not out ... M B Loye low b Bate

CRICKET SCOREBOARD Die aut bet: A L Penterthy, J E Emburey, J P Taylor, C E L Ambrose, R R Montgomene. Source at 15 overs: 72 for 2. Bowling: Cames 10-0-50-1; Pick 9-1-29-2; Pennett 9-1-49-0; Afford 8-0-33-0; Bates 7-0-48-1; Tolley 5-0-16-0. Unspires: V A Holder and D R Shepherd. Essex v Kent

(Essex won toss) CHELMSFORD: Kest won by one v

Ald not best: M C Bolt, P M Such, A P Cowen. Secret at 15 overs: 40 for 2.

Bowling: McCagle: 8-1-35-1: Thompson
10-2-26-2; Fleming: 10-0-44-0; Patel
40-34-0; Hooper: 10-0-36-2; Ealham
8-0-43-0. J. Welker low b Grayson
J. A. Balham c Hussan b liott ...
J. Liong low b Grayson
J. McCague run out
B. D Thompson not out

Sussex v Surrey (Suspex won toss) P Micros C D J signmen o Justen
D R C Law e Thorpe b Justen
V C Drakes c Justen b Pearson
M C Philips c Ward b Lewis
M C Philips c Ward b Lewis
D Lewry not out
Schras (B7, W7, rb4)
Total (49.5 overs) 94: 1-7, 2-15, 3-38, 4-43, 5-72, 6-76, 7-144. 8-161, 9-162, Score at 15 overs: 38 for 3. Bowling: Lows 10-2-29-3; M P Biolenet 5-1-33-0; Julian 10-3-28-3; Hollade 7-0-26-0; Pearson 9,5-0-50-3; Butcher 5-0-25-0. SURREY

D M Ward c Athey b Jams

A D Brown not out

"(A J Stewest not out

Extrem (b.2, b7, w3, rb2)...

Total (for 1, 38.1 overs)

Fells 1-58.

Did not best: G P Thomps, A J Hollowiss, D J Bicknett, M A Butcher, C C Lewis, B P Julian, M P Bicknett, R M Pearson. Score at 15 overs: 71 for 1. Bowling: Draises 6-1-38-0; Lewiy 6-0-32-0; Jarvis 10-1-42-1; Philips 5-0-49-0; Law 6-0-32-0; Newell 31-0-19-0. Umpliess: A Clarison and R Julian. Middlesex v Glamorgan (Middlesex won toss) MIDDLESEX
P N Weekes Dw b Watkin .
J C Harrison run out
*M W Getting c Metson b D Hamson run out W Gatting c Metson b Dale Pooley c Morts b Dale Carr e Metson b Dale ... R Brown e James b Dale Dutch b Croft P E Weinigs not out 14
R L Johnson c Cottey b Dele 9
A R C Fraeer run out 1
R A Fey Iber b Croft 0
Debree (It14, w12, rb4) 30
Total (49 2 overs) 283
Feib 1-71, 243 3-162 4-192, 5-205, 6-235, 7-241 8-195 6-2-87 7-241, 8-256, 9-262. Score at 15 overs: 66 for 0. Bowling Ginson 8-1-37-0; Wation: Thomas 6-1-35-0; Barrier 9-0-39-0 0-57-2; Dale 7-0-41-5. "M P Maynerd not out 151
P A Cottory o Johnson h Weeker 29
R D 6 Cord not out 29
Extress (953, w3, nb5) 11
Total (for 4, 48.5 owen) 265
Fait 1-25, 2-25, 3-162, 4-243,
Did not have (3) 0 Groups D 0 Thomas, 1C P
Metson, S L Westin, S R Barwick,
Score at 15 overse 44 for 2.
Bentlagt Presen 10-2-30-1; Fay 10-1-43-1;
Johnson 10-1-63-0; Dush 5-0-33-0; Weekes
8-0-48-1; Westings 5:5-0-45-1.
Umphres: A A Jones and R Palmer. Warwickshire v Derbyskire (Derbyshire won toss) RESTRICTE
M Jones tow b Reese
Barnett c Piper b Politock
Adams c Piper b Politock
Quen b N M K Smith
d Wells c Khan b Reese ...
d Vella c Khan b Reese ... J DeFreitas c sub b Pollock ... M Krikken Ibw b N M K Smith G Cork Ibw b Pollock

DE Malcolm not out Extras (1012, w3, n04) ... Total (48.4 overs) 193
Falt 1-5, 2-27, 3-132, 4-142, 5-144, 6-148, 7-174, 8-184, 9-190.
Score at 15 overs: 51 for 2.
Bossing Potock 9.4-1-38-5; Boss 10-2-26-0; Gless 6-0-33-0; Murtan 5-0-23-0; Reeve 9-1-24-2; N M K Smith 9-0-37-2. Editas (0014, Ws., rac.) 271. Total (49 overs) 271. Falk 1:34, 2:98, 3:171, 4:213, 5:239, 6:241, 7:258, 8:263, 9:271. Score at 15 overs: 94 for 1. Score 3:10.139.1; Let 9:0-60-3; Trump 10:0-44-0; Neyhust 3:0-26-0; Persons 7:0-37-0. MICKSHERE Ingit & Malcolm & Aldred (Smith & Aldred

Pall: 1-162, 2-187. Did not bet: T L Perney, "D A Reeve, S M Pollock, D R Brown, †K J Ploer, A F Glies, T A Mantion. SUBSECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF Score at 15 overs: 130 for 0.

Bouling: Matcoin 5-0-54-0; Cork 4-0-22-0; Aldred 5-0-35-2; Jones 2-0-18-0; Wells 1-0-7-0; Griffith 40-42-0; Bernett 2-3-0-14-0 Harden zun out ... Usephes: K E Paimer and R A White. Yorkshire v Scotland (Yorkshire won toss) HEADRIGLEY: Yorkshire was by 128 runs. YORKISHIRE TO Blan 40 M Discount Country Count Group A 7-228.
Did not bet: C E W Siverwood, R D Stemp.
Score at 15 overs: 78 for 1.
Rewiller: Williamson 9-1-54-2; Stanger
6-0-62-0; Goulay 10-038-0; Bein 6-0-37-1;
Tennant 10-1-29-2; Reser 9-0-44-2. SCOTLAND M J Smith b Silverwood
J G Williamson b Silverwood
G N Ratiler Ibw b Silverwood
G N Ratiler Ibw b Silverwood
G Silverwood C Mooon b Stemp
H J D Allingham b Voughen
M J D Allingham b Voughen
J M R Stanger b McGrath
J A R Bittin b Silverwood
A M Tentract not cut. JAR Blain is Sherwood 4
AM Tennant not out 2
Patrinss (bib., w4, nb4) 16
Total (41.4 overs) 1.42
Falt: 1-11, 2-15, 3-20, 4-31, 5-64, 6-78,
7-117, 3-131, 9-140.
Soore at 15 overs: 52 for 4.
Sowling: Gough 7-0-22-0; Silverwood
7.40-28-5; Hartley 5-1-9-0; White 5-0-17-1;
Stemp 10-2-26-1; Vaughan 5-1-22-1; McGrath 2-0-10-2.
Usessives G I Burdess, and A G T Whitehead. Group D _4 1 3 0 0 _3 0 3 0 0 rests G I Burgess and A G T Whitehead Somerast v British Universities (British Universities won toss) TAUNTON: Somerset won by

M R Evens not out
S A J Boswell flow b Caddick
1] Bahi b Caddick
Extres (6014, w8, nb2)

INVITATION MAYCH: Griff and Coton CC: MCC Young Chickers 228 IS McDonaid 5-73) and 142 for 8 (H Berton 50); Warwickshire Second XI 189 (M Burns 77, H Barton 4-85).

Middlesex slump to fourth Cup defeat Round-up Matthew Maynard led from

the front to keep Glamorgan in with a chance of reaching the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals. The former England batsman made an unbeaten 151 at Lord's as Middlesex slid to their fourth straight Oup defeat, by six wickets. Middlesex wasted a good

start with the opening pair of Paul Weekes and Jason Harrison putting 71 on the board by the 17th over. Weekes was then lbw for 37 and his captain, Mike Gatting, joined Harrison at the crease. Gatting's running between the wickets was bizarre, to say

the least. He nearly ran out

Harrison going for his first single and, five overs later, he did run his partner out, attempting a seemingly impossible run. Jason Pooley was next in and this partnership also lived dangerously between the wickets until Gatting was eventually out, caught behind for 45. Adrian Dale took the wicket and he went on to complete a tournament best performance of 5 for 41 as Middlesex lost their last seven wickets while

adding only 71 runs in 13 overs. Glamorgan needed a good start but lost Steve James and Hugh Morris with only 25 scored. Maynard was in prime form, however, striking no fewer than six sixes in his innings as well as 10 boundaries and even an all-run four.

the third wicket and proved the to spare.

perfect partner. When he was out, Tony Cottey did equally well while 81 were added for the fourth wicket. However, the Glamorgan captain was the outstanding performer and ful-ly deserved his second gold

award of the season. Yorkshire claimed their third win of the tournament after the seamer. Chris Silverwood. marked his first appearance of the season with a spectacular new-ball burst to secure a 128run victory over Scotland at Headingley. Silverwood claimed 4 for 11

in 16 balls on his way to a return of 5 for 28 as Scotland, chasing a victory target of 271, slumped to 142 all out.

The Australian Michael Bevan top-scored with 75 from 84 balls as Yorkshire reached 270 for 7 - mainly thanks to a late run spree from Darren Gough, watched by England's chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth who hit a competition-best unbeaten 48 off 32 deliveries.

Durham successfully overcame the Minor Counties after bowling them out for 157 at Chester-le-Street, but Somerset had a more testing encounter with the British Universities at Taunton, with Rob Turner and Keith Parsons rescuing them from an embarrassing defeat with a match-win-

ning eighth-wicket stand. The students looked to be in a great position after reducing Somerset to 209 for 7 in the 41st over chasing 271 but wicketkeeper Turner (39no) and Par- 9. sons (33no) kept their nerve to Dale helped him add 137 for clinch victory with seven balls

CLASH OF THE CODES: Bath may run into all sorts of problems for tonight's match. Dave Hadfield reports

Wigan desperate to prove a point

Any notion that Wigan will be making the 10 metres back into with Bath in any less serious mood than if they were playing a rugby league team would be dispelled by a couple of minutes in the company of Shaun Edwards.

son triple in

hed up for

. . . ttle extra

Ser happy

Act Stepper

The Wigan captain does not believe in making any allowances for inexperience. If relations between the two Bath struggle to come to terms with the pace and physical intensity of the game at Maine Road tonight, it is their hard luck and they - plus the spectators hoping for a meaningful contest - who will pay the

"A lot will come win to how strictly it is read, he said, firmly putting the match official, Russell Smith, on the spot We are not in the business of feeling sorry for anybody. I'm sure that when we play rugby league we will get penalised if we get on the wrong side of the rules and it should be the same for them."

Edwards, like the patrons of the Popular Stand at Central Park, is, in effect, shouting Gerrem onside". It is simply

familiar territory of rugby

efit of a native guide in their squad, writes Dave Hadfield.

Their reserve hooker, Gary

French, is not only a St Helens

lad who grew up watching and

playing the 13-a-side game - he

Rugby League", Ray French,

who will be commentating on

the game against Wigan for

They take off his commen-

taries'a bit for my benefit at

Bath," says his 27-year-old off-

spring. "But nobody can mim-

Sadly for French Jnr, he

ic him as well as me.'

s also the son of the "Voice of

Radiinski

1 Robins

oaching tonight's meeting the defensive line after every tackle that will be Bath's first and most insoluble problem.

Despite playing for England as a schoolboy in rugby union, Edwards is a league man to his bootlaces, not afraid to use words like bigotry and class when he analyses the tortured

"We can prove a lot of things at Maine Road," he said. "We are going to treat it like a semifinal of the Cup. If Bath happened to beat us, or even do well, we would never hear the last of it.

Putting on a good show for an expected 30,000 crowd with affiliations to both codes does not enter into it. Edwards wants to crush them.

All the sensible money is on him and his team-mates doing just that. The old assurance and strength in depth might not be quite what they were, and these matches against Bath might be primarily a way of balancing the books after their failure to reach Wembley, but Wigan will still field a team capable of run-

WIGAN V BATH

Maine Road, Manchester

union a far better player than Throw in the fact that Bath will never have seen anything like the clusive side-stepping of Henry Paul and it becomes a question of how many Wigan will score. Some bookmakers have been offering excessively generous odds against Wigan scoring 50, something they could live to regret.

ning riot against all but the most

clued-up opposition.

Martin Offiah will be back af-

ter injury on the left wing, with

Va'aiga Tuigamala - whose

transformation from a big fel-

low who used to wait for the ball

to come to him into a one-man

stampede sums up the differ-

ences between the codes - at

centre. It is on a third rugby

union convert, however, that

most interest will be concen-

trated. Scott Onimell will con-

tinue to play for Wigan despite

signing up to join Richmond at

the end of the season, and

there could be no better setting

than this to show why he will be

badly missed from Central Park

As the Wigan coach, Graeme

West, has ruefully observed, a lot of work has been put into making Quinnell a good league

forward - and that work has not

There have been times this

season when he has looked by

far the most likely member of

the Wigan pack to break tack-

les, and he is set to show tonight

that he will be going back to

It is not a case of Wigan underestimating Bath. "I saw them against Orrell," Edwards said, and they were awesome - at union.

Tonight they will discover the harsh truth that excelling in one code does not equip you to play the other. The more intriguing question is whether Wigan will be able to dely that logic when the positions are

iuries are likely to prevent

The lack of time to really get

to grips with the demands of

league means that French is

making no rash predictions

about the game, but the union return at Twickenham on 25

May is a different matter, he

says, and he has money on the

"There is no way that Wigan

lost a bet against my dad. He's

and-so that I can wind him up to

fortune from him over the years."

outcome of that to prove it.



Testing time: Bath's coach, Brian Ashton, is aware of the task at hand for his champion side

'Fatigue factor' worries Ashton

English rugby union's cup and league having been precariously won, it is a form of masochism - albeit highly remunerative masochism at a time when they need every penny they can get - that has driven Bath to tonight's rugby league match against Wigan at

Maine Road. A sum not dissimilar to £400,000 will pay a few bills, though so a team who at times appeared to be on their collective last legs against Leicester at Twickenham last Saturday will just have to find a new pair. Jeremy Guscott and Ben Clarke . As Brian Ashton, their coach, from playing for Bath at Maine accepts, his players could have done with months of dreda tion aimed at this one event.

Instead, they have had a few days. If anyone knows the inadequacy of this, it is Ashton, who - would you believe it? happens to be a Wiganer whose father, Albert, was on Wigan's books at the outbreak of World

Whatever your view of the can win at rugby union," he promises. "Besides, I've never merits of tonight's 13-a-side match or the 15-a-side return at Twickenham on 25 May, they such an argumentative old soare historic occasions after 101 years of league/union enmity. Yet until last weekend Bath had bet on anything and I've won a had to treat this first lev as an

Steve Bale discovers the Bath coach has a boot in both rugby camps

inconvenient intrusion while they set about regaining the championship and retaining

Bearing in mind Wigan are themselves champions, this is hopelessly inadequate, even though Ashton habitually uses league drills in his training for union. But the sum total of Bath's preparation had been two sessions conducted by Clive Griffiths, the Wales rugby league coach.

While everyone else was enhad another session on Monday morning, followed in the afternoon by a conditioned match against the new South Wales professional league team and a final session yesterday before departing for Manchester.

"Given a reasonable amount of time to prepare, we would have been able to do full credit to ourselves," Ashton, 48, said. "But it's asking a hell of a lot even from as dedicated and raiented a bunch as we have to play the first game of rugby league in their lives against Wigan under these circumstances."

appointed if our handling skills were inadequate because we always spend a lot of time on ball work and our tackling will have the benefit - physical and psy-chological - of shoulder pads. The coach's consolation is his hope that, at Twickenham, Wigan will find mastery of rug-But handling and tackling might ultimately depend on something else: the fatigue fac-

by union's mysteries - scrum, line-out, ruck and maul - at least tor. Rugby league players are used to having the ball in play as difficult as Bath find those of rugby league. Ashton ventures that in a league context his playfor 60 to 65 minutes, whereas if we get 30 to 35 it's considered ers' handling and tackling will a substantial period. On the othstand up to scrutiny, and is more concerned at how well they er hand, there's not the intenwill sustain an unfamilian sive scrummaging or driving mauls or the impact in rucks, defensive organisation. "It's a question of getting the and in training the front-five forright people in the right posiwards have seemed a lot liveli-

These cross-code matches thing that has been pointed out are made for a rugby man such to us is that if Wigan spot a playas Ashton, who played nothing er out of place - for example a but league at junior school in prop marking a centre - then they are ready to exploit that im-Wigan but then attended Roymediately. It isn't easy because al Grammar School, Lancaster, where the only rugby was union. A scrum-half with Fylde and Orin rugby union you fill the space that's nearest to you and other players spread out away from rell, he rejected a chance to turn pro for Salford in 1971.

Ashton went on England's ill-Of equal concern is the incessancy of rugby league, the vastly longer period in which the starred 1984 tour to New Zealand as assistant coach. In ball is in play and the corre-spondingly shorter period in July he will cease to be a teacher at King's School at Bruton in which Bath will be allowed to Somerset in order to become draw breath. "I would be dis-Bath's first full-time coach.

Players breathe life into **Crucible**

Guy Hodgson

says snooker may never have been in better shape

It seems a long while since Barry Hearn, the manager of Steve Davis and Ronnie O'Sullivan, prefaced the start of the Embassy World Snooker Championship by mourning the lack of characters in the game. Everyone, he said, seems to have "undergone a charisma by-

Seventeen days later, snooker could sit back and feel it had not just answered that criticism, but set up the Championship for the next five years. Characters? The Crucible has not been the focus of so much of the nation's attention since the heady days of the 1980s.

The BBC has announced that initial audience research points to a 55 per cent increase in viewing figures for the first week, and that was before Ronnic O'Sullivan took the tournament from the back pages of the tabloids to the front by assaulting a press officer. Even if the 20-year-old from Chigwell goes to church every day for the next year, he will still be the "bad boy of snooker" by the time the Championship rolls around next year. People not normally interested in the game

will turn to their television sets. Add Peter Ebdon, whose waistcoats would not look out of place on Gary Glitter, and the increasing profile of another prodigy, John Higgins, and the event appears more secure than it has done for some time. That is also true in financial terms because Imperial Tobacco has agreed to sponsor the tournament and keep it at The Cru-

cible until the year 2000. Small wonder, then, at the post-final dinner that John Spencer, the chairman of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, described the tournament as the best ever.

Such was the excitement of encounters like O'Sullivan's matches against Ebdon and Higgins that the progress of Stephen Hendry to his fifth successive final went almost unnoticed. Except at the end. of cracked as the Scot won his sixth title, beating Ebdon 18-12 in the final, to match the modern record held by Ray Reardon and Steve Davis.

Hendry did not play that well - his safety play and long pots were, in his description, "shocking" for most of the tournament - but at The Crucible he has such an air of invincibility he wins matches before he gets off the chair.

1996/97 SEASON: Provisional world rank-laga: 1 S Hendry; 2 J Higgas; 3 P Ebdon; 4 J Parrott; 5 N Bond; 9 A McNanus; 7 N Do-herty, 8 R O'Suliven; 9 D Morgan; 10 S Dovs: 11 D Harold; 12 J Wattara; 13 J White; 14 A Robidouc; 15 T Drago; 16 M Williams.

damaged a calf muscle in the French filling the crucial role of

league at Maine Road tonight, .. he is unlikely to be fit in time

they will at least have the ben- to play tonight. He has, how-

5

Sportsnight.

Russell Garcia yesterday became only the second player to pass the 100-cap mark for Great Britain, and celebrated with the opening goal as Britain beat India 2-1 to give them their first points in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Ipoh, writes Bill Colwill. Although the Indians were

lacking all but one of their Olympic squad, coach David Whitaker said after the game: 'It was an important psychological win to promote both belief and team development. With captain Jason Laslett sure led to the winning goal,

and Julian Halls missing through Chris Mayer shooting home injury, Britain opened tenta- from the edge of the circle.

Britain grateful to Garcia tively, and Simon Mason was called upon to make a couple of good saves from Sarabiit Singh. Britain took the lead 11 minutes into the second half

Bath benefit from French twist

When Bath venture into the unmatch against Sale that won the hooker and acting half-back infamiliar territory of rugby Courage League for Bath and juries are likely to prevent

good idea of what to expect

when Wigan get at them under

important it is to get back your

10 metres and keep a straight

defensive line. If we don't do

French has also been able to

bring in Clive Griffiths, the

Welsh international rugby league

coach who is in charge of the new

league outfit based at Aberavon,

to give Bath some grounding in

Just as his calf is likely to stop

a largely unfamiliar game.

that. Wigan will massacre us.'

"I've been telling them how

league rules this evening.

en his team-males a

through Garcia at their third penalty corner. Within four ninutes the Indians were level, Prabakaran Lakshman getting the goal after good approach work from Sukhbir Singh Gill. The temporary suspension of Nick Thompson for protesting after being warned for a heavy tackle did little to help Britain's cause until the closing minutes, when a period of sustained pres-

Windsor enjoys huge entry

Although Britain's Olympic show jumping team will not be named until 2 July, it is safe to assume that the four riders who travel to Atlanta will be among those competing at The Royal Windsor Horse Show which begins its five-day run this morning, writes Genevieve Murphy.

Horses ridden by the two Whitaker brothers and Nick Skelton are among the record

entries of more than 3,500, which makes the Windsor show the biggest in the world.

Di Lampard will have other members of the Whitaker family to contend with when she rides Abbervail Dream in the Ladies' Championship on Friday. Veronique Whitaker (the wife of Michael) and Louise Whitaker (daughter of John) will be among her opponents, as will Malin Baryard, who is based at John Whitaker's Yorkshire yard.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football (7.30 unless stated)

Rugby League

Other sports EQUESTRIANISM: Windsox horse show. SPEEDWAY: Premier League (7.30): Hull v Belle Vue; Long Eston v Swindon; Poole v Cradley Heath & Stoke.

TENNES: UTA Spring Systems (Lector-Sol

King opts for return bout in **US** courts

Don King yesterday withdrew an offer of \$10m to Britain's Lennox Lewis for a July fight against the WBC heavyweight champion, Mike Tyson, writes Glyn Leach from New York.

against Lewis. Five attempts to overturn that decision have failed in American courts. After being forced to the negoti-ating table, King has elected to give the legal system one last try. Yesterday the case was being heard by seven judges of the Supreme Court at Trenton, New Jersey, with a ruling expected today. King had planned to match Tyson with the WBA champion, Bruce Seldon, in July, but last week an appeals court ordered that Tyson must face Lewis, who fights Ray

fight at Newcastle on 8 June.

TODAY'S

The number of Ethiopian Netherlands and want full citizenship to allow them to compete for the Dutch in the

Athletics Wang Juntia, the world record holder, ran the year's fastest 10,000m yesterday in China's Clympic trials. Her time of 31min 1.76sec best the year's previos best, set by Fernanda Ribeiro of Portugal, by more than three seconds. On Sunday Juntia also ran the year's fastest 5,000m.

A New Jersey judge ruled in March that Tyson should make the first defence of his title Kamas City...... Western Division Seattle ... MACHONAL LEAGUR: Los Angeles & Pittsbur Ronda 4 New York Mets 1; Montreel & Ch Cubs 2; Houston 11 Philadelphia 5; Ada Colorado 1. Eastern Division Central Division Chicago

Mercer here on Friday. Herbie Hide will relaunch his heavyweight career next month after more than a year out of the ring. The 24-year-old Norwich boxer will stage his comeback

NUMBER



marathon runners who have won political asylum in the 2000 Olympic Games.

transfers to 11 players – John de Wolf, Paul Birch, Robble Dennison, Eric Young, Mark Williams and sk junior players. McGhee has also put Mark Venus, Mark Rankine and the reserve goal-leeper Paul Jones on the transfer list. He has warned another seven or eight players they will also be made available before the start of next season if their attitude and fitness does not improve.

tre at Largs to receive further to

Brighton are charging half-price ad-

600 free tickets as a goodwill gesture.

Cidinam 3 Shemiad Ust 3; Stoke 1 Source Vivolverhampion 3 Monochester Ust 2. Table 01-viblore: Bury O Lincoln 1. Awan lanaumene Com-bination First Division: Crystal Patien 1. Briscol Cry 2: Wastord 2 Igaanch 3; Plail Brown testi-monial: Reciseng Town 3 Boston Lincol 2. Ma-jor Languac Colosted 4 Maresa Cry C. Dallas 2 Columbia 0 (after shoot-out); Lis Angeles 3 West-leston. 3

AZZAN CAMAL CELP (Hamba Lumpus); Genet Bagain 2 (Garcia 46, Mayer 67) India 3 (Probindiasan 50); Netherlands 1 South hopes 1; Australia 7 Mallyans 1. Standings (after three glasses); 1 Australia Sciss; 2 Malaysia 4; 3 Korna 4; 4 Mather-lands 3: 5 Great Britain 2; 6 ands 0.

STANLEY CLIP PLAY-DIFFS: Western Co enne semi-finalis: Chicago 4 Colombo 3 (Chicago lean pert-of-series 2-1).

Hockey

ice hockey

ningham 1 Leeds 1; Stoke 1 Boken 0; per Uto 2. Teard Di-

The Spanish club Español are reported to be interested in signing Tomas Brolin from Leeds, atthough Leeds have heard nothing officially. Kevin Gallacher of Blackburn yesterday joined up with the Scotland squad and

SPORTING DIGEST

is confident of being fit for the tour to America later this month. Geliacher suf-fered a hamstring strain on Sunday and pulled out of the squad session, but after working with the club physiotherapist he travelled to the National Training Cen-20 10 .687 -15 14 .533 -14 16 .467 -13 16 .448 -12 20 .375 David Hirst has agreed a new three-year contract with Sheffield Wednesday. ongroon are charging that-price ad-mission for the re-arranged Second Di-vision match with York tomorrow. The match licks off at 11am and has been made all-ticket after the original game was ebandoned after a pitch invasion by Brigaton fans. York, who need a point to avoid relegation, have been allowed W L Pet 21 11 556 19 13 594 16 14 523 13 17 433 12 21 364 AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Divi-sion: Cystel Palers 1 Assers 0; Luton 3 West Ham 2; Watjord 1 Southampton 2. sient Crystal Palace 1 Amerial C; Luton 3 West Ham 2; Waldon 1 Southermopton 2.

THESDAM'S LATE MESILES: 884 Vacchall Conference Spalating Log Grant second log-Bromagrove 3 Manchesfeld 1 (agg. 4-2), Intellugia Question Inscarrance Cap Final: Aldershot), North West Counties Langue First Divisions Bootle 2 Messays 1; Factor 1 Testino C; Holler Old Boys 4 Rossendale C; Newcastle D Burscuogle D, Northberro Counties East League Presidente Cap Bod second log: Beiter 2 Bings 0 (agg. 4-2), Intellink Express Medical Langue Cap Grant Belleria Entitle Counties Sussen Counties Existence Langue Cap Grant Belleria 1 (Motory O, Unique Sussen County Langue Pics Divisions: Langue Cay Sizmon 1; Pethodrium Cay Normatis 4 Affan Lino C; Corney 5 Abersahort 2 Constitut Ouay Normatis 4 Affan Lino C; Corney 5 Abersahort 2 Counties 1 (Riv) 2 Liances 7 Constitut Ouay Normatis 4 Affan Lino C; Corney 5 Abersahort 2 Counties 1 (Riv) 2 Liances 7 Constitut Ouay Normatis 4 Affan Lino C; Corney 5 Abersahort 2 Liances 1 (Riv) Counties 3 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog O Nascons 15: Ton Penine 2 Liances Cap Beat Strances 4 (Riv) 1 Constitut 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 3 Shelbid Liances 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 3 Shelbid Liances 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 3 Shelbid Liances 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 5 Riv 1 Constitut 3 Shelbid 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 5 Riv 1 Constitut 3 Shelbid 1 Shelbours 1. Porthmodog 1 Shelbid 1 Sh

Western Division
Sen Diego
Colorado 19 12 .613 -15 15 .500 3½ 16 17 .485 4 16 .467 4½

Basketball NEA PLAY-OFFS: Western Conference Assis-finals: Sestile 105 Houston 101 (Seattle lead best-of-seven series 2-0).

Cycling Cycling:
TOUR DUPON: Sech stage (Seiem to Blacke-berg: 134.5 milest; 1 Lemotorig (LS, Motorota)
She Smn 58sec: 2 P Henre (Fr, Festina) + Imm
IJDEC: 3 - Le Robin (Fr, Festina) + Imm
IJDEC: 3 - Le Robin (Fr, Festina) + Set 8 + F Gercta-Cases (Sp, Festinal); 5 F Echane (Sp, ManeGE); 8 A Hampisten (LS, US Postal Service) all
strine time. Owerall standings: 1 Armshold; 23m
ISmin 33sec: 2 Henre + 2min 13ant; 3 ThomInger (Swiz, Mopel-GE) + 355; 4 A Mexico, IBI,
Mosonia) + 4:23; 5 Robin + 4:35; 6 D Pista (Sp,
Festina) + 4:27.

Football

Middlesbrough have put the Bolivian in-ternational, Jaime Moreno, on the transfer list, Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, wants to recoup the £250,000 he paid for Moreno, who has been watched by Aberdeen.

Mark McGhee yesterday began a clearout at Wolverhampton by giving free

Rugby Union

The Queensland hooker Michael Foley has been suspended from his team's final Super 12 league match for stamping during Saturday's match against Natal. A disciplinary panel studied video evidence before over-niling a submission from the referee Tappa Henning that no malice was intended.

Fina, swimming's governing body, said yesterday that it was unware of any threats by a newly-formed organisation to take over the sport. The World Swimming Coaches Association, which claims a membership of 500 coaches from 40 countries, amounced it had formed the World Swomping Organisation in an World Swimming Organisation in an attempt to pressure Fina into adopting a tougher stance on catching drug users.

Table tennis

ENROPE-IN CHAMPHONS-HIP (Branchatura):
SUROPEAN CHAMPHONS-HIP (Branchatura):
Mer's attagiant: Serus-Ghishet J Persoon (Saret) for
Picarlson (Saret) 21-13 22-13 22-20; 10-203ner (Saret) bt 3-P Cathen (Pr) 22-21; 17-21 21-17
21-5. Fleat: Waldner in Fersion 16-21 21-15
22-20 21-17. Women's simplest Saret-Branker
N Strase (Gor) bt E Schott (Gen) 21-18 20-22
21-17 9-22 21-18: N Toth Cham) bt 1 Schoop
(Gen) 21-15 21-12 13-21 18-21 21-8. Fleat:
Strase bt York 21-6 21-18 22-13.

Nick Bollettier is ending his coaching relationship with Mark Philippoussis. Bol-lettieri and Philippoussis father, Nick, have coached the young Australian snot 1995. Bollettieri said Philippoussis father would now be Mark's sole coach

mentor (Nog 6-3 8-2.
LTA SPRONS SATÉLITE (Lap-on-Solent):
Womber Prest resent: J Pulin (GS) of H Martines,
IGS) 6-1, 4-9 6-4; M Lamerre Fr) bi 1. Latriner,
IGS) 7-5 6-1; J Chouchtery (GS) is M Goldensene
(Pus) 6-3 3-5 7-6; J Stock (SA) bi E Bons (GS)
5-1 6-4; A Methanist'i (GS) at V Davies (GS) 7-6
6-1; R Mondaley (Pus) at J, James (GS) 6-2 6-2;
A Hummin (Aus) at 1. Woodcolle (GS) 8-2 8-4.

RACING RESULTS

CHESTER

2.10: 1. CONNEMARIA (K Fakori) 100-30;
2. Foot Battailon 16-1; 3. Caronine Lake
4-9 fav. 6 ran. 1½, 2. (C Dayer, Nemarken).
Teter. 13.80; £1.60, £4.40. Dual Forecast.
239.60. Companer Straight Forecast. £39.69.
2.40: 1. LEGAL RIGHT (J Reid) 3-1; 2.
Shanston 13-8 fav; 3. Bowled Over 25-1, 9
ran. 1½, 1½, (P Crapple-½am, Mariton).
Tote: £3.60; £1.40, £1.30, £4.30. Dual Forecast £3.10. CSF: £8.05, Troc £74.40.
3.10: 1. RIGH BAROQUE (J Reid) 11-4;
2. SR Marwes 11-4; 3. Prince of My Heart
9-1. 6 ran. 2-1 fav Ar Quest (£5), 1½, 2½,
(P Crapple-½am, Markon), Totel: £4.00;
£2.00, £1.60. Dual Forecast: £5.50. CSF:

22.00, £1.60. Dual Forecast: £5.50. CSF: £10.24.

3.40: 1. PRENDS CA (Pot Edden) 14-1; 2. Resect 16-1; 3. Phinnase; 3(0-1, 13 ren. 9-2 fav Sudkech (4M), 1-1, hd, hd, R) Pannon, East Everlegh). Totac £16.90; £4.60, £4.90. £5.80. DF: £103-40. CSF: £197-36. Tracst: £2.214.43. Trac: £725.00.

4.10: 1. HUGWITY U Stack 6-1; 2. Ten Past Sh; 14-1; 3. Hampy Dannes: 5-1; § fav. 15 ren. 5-1; fav Golden Touch (5th), 1, rk. 18 Hambury, Newmarken, Totac: £9-10; £7.70. £4.90, £3.10. DF: £74.50. CSF: £89.81. Tracst: £426.13. Trac £4.44.30. Non Runner: Reverand Thickness.

4.40: 1. PRIDE OF BREKTOR! (Paul Edder) 4-1; 2. Night Parade 11-4 fav; 3. Tadeo 8-1 10 ren. 34-2. 48 (15 rens. Edden). Totac £4.30; £2.00, £1.80, £2.90. DF: £7.00. CSF: £15.90. Tracst: £82.75. Trac: £13.45 carmed Jesticot not won food of £9.034.59 carmed lackpot: not won (pool of £8,034,59 carned

forward to Chester todayi. Placepot: £1,595.40. Quadpot: £145.70. Place 6: £376.61. Place 5: £93.97. **NEWTON ABBOT** 1.55; 1. MARINE SOCIETY (A Thormon) 3-1; 2. Ottowa 11-4 p tar; 3. Bishopa Is-land 12-1, 8 ras. 11-4 p tay Jord Man (6th).

24r., 20. (A Newcombe, Barristapla). Total £3.90; £1.40, £1.40, £3.00. Dual Forecast. £6.50. CSF: £11.63. Tricast. £78.73. Trio: £13.70. Non Runners: After Wijns & Hapby Horse, 2.25: 1. AJRZ (T Dascombe) 9-4: 2. Robert's Toy 7-4 far; 3. Caspins Robert 15-1. B ran. Stf.-Id. 8. (R Hodges, Sometion). Total: £3.10; £1.60, £1.90. DF: £5.10. CSF:

Teles 23.10; £1.60, £1.90. DF: £5.10. CSF: £5.47. Non Runners: Hangem Out To Dry & Mouse End.
2.55: 1. JAMES THE FIRST (A P McCoyl 2-1: 2. Rether Sharp 12-1: 3. Seffash 20-1. 7 res. 7-4 fay The Stater (pulled up). 3%: 1%. (P Nichols, Sneppin Malet), Totae £2.10: £1.40, £5.20. DF: £21.60. CSF: £23.23. Totaet: £349.48. Non Runner: Bergarm Lancesce.

3.25: 1. YUBBALEF (D Brogweger) 7.4; 2. Lady Pets 5-4 fer; 3. Dream Nero 20-1 10 res. 14, 5, (M Pps, Weilington). Total 23-30; £1,10, £1,40, £3,30. Dual Forecast: £2,80. CSF: £4,88, Tno: £22,60. Non Run-

ELECT. USF: 1-4.00. HOL. Mass L. Blecford 3-1: 2. Southerly Gale B-1: 3. Well Timed 3-1: 2. Southerly Gale B-1: 3. Well Timed 3-1: 8 ran. 9-4 fav Stormy Surrest (felt). 2/r. 4. (Mrs. Lynne Jones, Taunton). Tokes £3.20: £1.60, £2.60, £1.80. DF: £12.90, CSF: £70.91.

£20.91.
4.26: 1. BRE DEE BOY (B Forson) 6-1;
2. Jacksh 12.1; 2. Gion Mirage 10-1. 14
man. 7-4 tov Alaymann. 345, 144. (P Clarks, Hastman). Tober £7.90; £2.50, £4.10, £3.80, OF: £36.30. CSF: £79.27. Incast

£884.62. Tho: £273.40 (part won, pool of £1.11.69 camed forward to Chester 3.40 to-day), Non Runners: Baylord Prince & Coun-try Store. Places por £58.80. Quadpot: £21.00. Places 6; £90.31, Places 5: £46.15.

DONCASTER

5.00: 1. GROVEFAIR FLYER M Tobbuttl 5-1: 2. Poly Moon 9-4: 3. Contravene 6-1. 7 ran. 24: 14: 16 Mechani, Tobe: £5.80: £2: 10, £1.60. Dr. £5.10, £5: £9.81. Yno: £3.70. Non Runners: River Bond. Tressure Touch (£3-8) was wathdrawn not under orders. the pound. 6.30: 1. CHEERFUL GROOM (N Kennedy)

20-1; 2. Sycamore Lodge 11-2; 3. Kid Ory 12-1; 4. Special-K 12-1. 17 ran. 3.1 fb Alcharg 1. 12-1. (S. Rowang, Total: E0.80; 19.00, 12-10, 23-90, £1.80, DF: £126.00, CSF: £145.14, Treast: £1,379.19. Tno: £450.50. Non Rumer, Orbos Ros. 7.00: 1. HOH RETURNS (M Fentury 7-1; Theorem 2-1; 2 kin Market Michael 11-2; 2. Thordis: 7-1; 3. No Monthary North 11-2. 7 ran. 8-15 fav Audem (Bith). 5, {, (M. Belh. Tober £6.30; £2.50; £3.30; 07: £15.30; CSF: £49.03. After a stewards: inquiry, the result

Stood.
7.30: 1. HAYA YA KEFAAH IA Clark 12-12. Omtobyod Welcome 8-1: 2. Ele-Yie-Minu S-2 tar. 15 ran. 1. 1. (N Babbayel, Totac. 119.00; L4-70, L2-50, L1-90. DF: L72.80, CSF: L112.93, Tricast: £306.08. Troj: £250.30.

WINCANTON

5.45: 2. ASHWELL BOY (R Durwoody) 1-3 fax; 2. I Have Him 5-1: 3. Storm Run 9-2. 8 ram. 2/r, 4. /P Hobbst. Totac £1.40; £1.00, £1.60, £1.60, DF; £2.70, CSF; £3.39, Thu: £1.60, Non Runner; Migs Fine-rooter.

racher. B.15: 1. MAREMMA GALE (A Goule) 100-6.18*1. MARTEMBAR GALE (A GOURE) 100-30; 2. Herbart Bochenan 9-4 far; 3. Sem Patrel 5-1. 11 mm, 2. 5m-hd. (R R Mightel), Foise (3.60; 11.50; 11.50; 11.90, DF; (24.80, CSF: 11.90, Traces: 13.396, True (22.80, 6.45: 1. POLITICAL PARTO (D BRIGHATE)) 8.45: 1. POLITICAL PANTO (D Brigader) Evers tay; 2. The Grey Frier 9-1; 3. Philat-elic 25-1, 12 ran. 14. 5. (M Pipe), Totar-52:00; 21,50, 52:00, 55:50, 07: 59:20, (Sr. 510.43, Inc. 574:80, Non Rutters Futly Day 5 Inch. Sun. 7.15: 1. THE JOGGER IM! J Tuzerd) 3-1; 2. No Joker 5-1; 3. Sett in Business 5-6 8w, 9 an. 4, 5-; (C Tuzerd), Totar-54-20; 51:10, 51:70, 51:40, DF: 51:100, CSF; C17:62, Inc. 52:90.

The 1994 Grand National winner. Milmnehoma, has run his last race. The 13-year-old, who landed the world's most famous steeplechase in the colours of Freddie Starr, has been retired to the home of his owner. His trainer, Martin Pipe, has also continued a clear-out of famous names from his stable by calling a halt to the nis statute by county a nast to the career of the 1991 Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup winner, Chatam. "What is really good is that they've both been with us a long time and have retired sound and well. That's what really matters," Pipe said.

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Law James

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EUROPEAN CUP-WROVERS' CUP FRAL Parls St-Germain v Rapid Victoria (7.15) — (at King Baudouh stadium, Brussald) PALIL MERSON TESTIMONIAL: Areand v in-ternational XI 17.45).

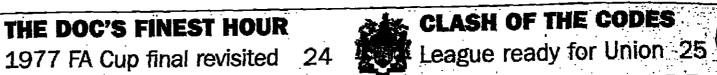
ANDY PORTER TESTINORIAL: Por Vale v Der-by County (7.45).
PONTHS LEAGUE First Division: Oldhem v Nots County (7.0); Sheffeld Wednesday v Leads (7.0); Transmer v Leepool (7.0); West Bornston v Backbarn (7.0); Seen Division: Granisky Presson (7.0); Hus Chy v Blackpool (7.0); Mensied v Haronster Chy (7.0); York v Grinsby (7.0). Taind Division: Destington v Wigen (8.30); Walselt v Strovebury (7.0). AYON RESURPANCE COMMENDATION Flest Division: Chastion v Brighton (2.0)

LCL PILS MORTHERN LEAGUE CUP Final: Dunston Federation Brewery v Whithy (st Brangham Synthonia FC). JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE CUP Final Fakerham v Haistead (at Diss Town FC).

CHAILENGE MATCH: Wagen v Bath (B.0) (at Maine Road, Manchester).



THE DOC'S FINEST HOUR





Clarke named Richmond's new captain

Rugby Union

STEVE BALE

Whatever the incipient rugby union transfer market may portend, it will struggle to produce anything as dramatic as yesterday's five-man coup with which Richmond heralded the official start of club professionalism.

At the Café Royal in Regent Street, where they were founded 135 years ago, the newly-promoted Second Division club introduced the Bath and England back-row forward Ben Clarke as their new captain. They are also paying around £200,000 to gain the release from rugby league of the former Llanelli and Wales forward Scott Quinnell, whose contract with Wigan will terminate at the end of June.

The lock Richard West from Gloucester, prop Darren Crompton from Bath and wing Jim Fallon from Leeds RL club were the other three to be added to the half-backs acquired from Cardiff last month, Adrian Davies and Andy Moore. West won one cap as a member of England's 1995 World Cup squad. Crompton is an A international, as is Fallon, a former Richmond and Bath player who is out of contract with Leeds.

Nor have Richmond, who are funded by a £2.5m investment by the Monte Carlo entrepreneur Ashley Levett, finished. They are in discussion with another leading union-to-league convert, the Wales centre Scott Gibbs of St Helens, whose transfer fee would be much the same as Quinnell's, and ex-

ACROSS

One-time Egyptian whistler

Club gives women slight ad-

place (9)

11 Poet gives quality to the ordinary things we say (10)

12 "Charity begins at home" —

leading feature (4)

14 Cricket strips stick - we

erupt! (7) 15 Opening left where altar

stands (7) 17 Bagpipe outfit in silent sur-roundings (7)

lishing rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

vantage (5)
4 Orwell's bachelor-pad (5)
10 Parking licence is common-

to their part of south-west London in the next week or two.

But they did not have the field to themselves yesterday now that the Rugby Football Union's season-long moratorium has finished. Leicester announced that their outstanding frontrow trio - Graham Rowntree, Richard Cockerill and Darren Garforth, all yesterday included in François Pienaar's Bar-barians team for the Peace Match against Ireland in Dublin on Saturday week - had signed five-year contracts and that the Scotland wing Craig Joiner was joining from Melrose. Within Scotland, the international prop

to Currie from Glasgow High. The Scottish Rugby Union, nervous at the prospect of oth-ers following Joiner's lead, is to consider introducing knyalty pay-ments for those who stay in Scotland, though it is difficult to see how they could hope to match the sums being paid out to the likes of Clarke and Quinnell.

Alan Watt yesterday transferred

In Clarke's case, a top-of-the range five-year deal worth around £120,000 per annum has been enough to persuade him to leave Bath, even at a time when England's premier club have just done the Double and also to take a chance on his England career by dropping into the Second Division. Not that the player sees it that way: "I have every intention of playing for England again and I wouldn't do anything to

jeopardise my England career.' Both Clarke and Quinnell yesterday mouthed the usual platitude that what had really attracted them to Richmond was "the challenge". But in fairness to the club, their well-heeled

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

VINERS OF SHEFFIELD

19 Rosie's strongest tipple? (6) 20 Sediment (from ale, especial-

ly) (4) 22 Material of a Norfolk jacket?

25 Princess's meal gives rise to

26 Who would have challenged

such a deadly robot (5)
27 Made out after nervous start

DOWN

Angle - bad blow to English?

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and given title (5)

28 Spring blossom of marsh-marigold (9)

dehate (9)

ambition is another allure and yesterday's appointment of years, as director of rugby will provide important continuity for the current squad, all of whom have signed contracts of intent binding them to Richmond un-

til the end of next season. Richmond's multiple early strike in the transfer market situates them strongly for a challenge in next season's Second Division, where two more of rugby union's nouveaux riches. Newcastle and Saracens, will

provide intense competition.
On that score, there remains the proviso that Saracens' relegation from the First still becomes reality if the RFU and the leading clubs under the umbrella of Epruc ever resolve their differences over finance and control of the professional game.

With promoted Richmond now members of Epruc, Symon Elliott, the chief executive, moved significantly from the support of the union he expressed four weeks ago. "We are not in favour of a breakaway from the RFU but I am sympathetic with the aims of Epruc and I give them our full support in representing us at the table with the RFU," he said.

A decision on the case against Neil Back, the Leicester flanker. for pushing the referee at the end of last Saturday's Pilkington Cup final has been delayed to the end of the week so that Roy Manock. the RFU's national discipline officer, can study video evidence.

gether following summer

13 Irishman almost laid out polishing off pop, we hear (9) 14 This is a place for tennis-el-

bow - mind out! (9) 16 Average city-woman in cus-tom-built constitution (6,3) 18 Through which one hears "A murder has been arranged™ (7) 19 Elegant, deliberate way at cathedral (7)

21 Course record - many will

not finish (5)
23 Rambler with one sovereign

in her grasp (5) 24 Nelson, for example, in ship's

HOOVER EGGROUS
A S T W L O A G
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R A S R U K V G
SOLITUDE RECEGE

ibroad (9)

CRICKET: Sussex suffer from Brown's brilliance while Kent win thrilling contest



Martin Speight of Sussex surveys the damage done by Surrey's Chris Lewis at Hove

Thompson lays down the law

Cricket

DAVID LLEWELLYN reports from Chelmsford Essex 225-6: Kent 226-9 Kent win by one wicket

Julian Thompson has had a remarkable introduction to Benson and Hedges Cup cricket. Three wickets against Middle-Week's short to amend rough design-drafts (4-6) sex last week earned him the Irreverent African warriors Gold Award, and he completring America (7) ed a man-of-the-match double with a couple of cheap wickets from Castile (7) and a nerveless performance with the bat to help steer Kent 6 Scrap brings success to Welsh Cry of disgust after party to victory with two balls to makes money (5) spare over Essex at chilly Endlessly, sailors band to-

Chelmsford. Poor Essex just lost out, with the responsibility for the last

over falling on the relatively inexperienced shoulders of their overseas player, Australian Stuart Law, when perhaps they might have been better served by bringing on the under-used

Kent needed eight runs off that last over, and a wide from Law did not help the Essex cause. Thompson, a junior houseman at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, pinched a single, and his last-wicket partner, Min Patel, edged a boundary and then dabbed the winning runs next ball.

Victory virtually assured Kent, with a superior run-rate in Group C, of a third successive quarter-final appearance, and their fifth in six years.

there was a symmetry to

shout, depending on everyone else's results and a victory over Somerset next Tuesday. There were some heroic performances from both teams throughout an absorbing day. The West Indies Test all-

rounder Carl Hooper con the Kent effort, having earlier picked up two Essex wickets. Nasser Hussain began scratchily but finished well in making 82, while Irani knocked up 43, including two thumping sixes in an Essex total that never really looked enough, as well as taking a brilliant catch at mid-on

He began by dismissing Gra-

gave him an unusual treble. In the space of seven days he has claimed the wickets of three England captains, the previous pair being Mike Gatting last Tuesday and Mike Atherton on Saturdáy.

Thompson tollowed that by tributed 45 runs in 57 balls to accounting for the Essex captain. Paul Prichard, who by then had had his right index finger strapped up after a sharp delivery from Martin McCague had drawn blood.

Hussain and Law clicked along for 66 useful runs and when Law fell to Hooper, Irani shared in a stand of 86, but the to account for Hooper. But innings lacked momentum throughout. No one on either side really took things by the scruff of the neck, and so Kent Essex are also still in with a ham Gooch, a wicket which squeezed in by a nose.

Lewis on target for rampant **Surrey**

DEREK PRINGLE

THE INDEPENDENT . WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 1996

reports from Hove Sussex 208; Surrey 209-1 Surrey win by nine wickets

A brilliant unbeaten century by Alistair Brown, and some penetrative bowling by Brendon Julian and a resurgent Chris Lewis, saw Surrey to victory by nine wickets over Sussex, whose total of 208 was hopelessly inadequate in a game played on a flat pitch and in a howling gale. It was Brown's first hundred

in the Benson and Hedges Cup and he will not regret the timing of it. In 10 days the England selectors sit down to pick their one-day squad for the Texaco Trophy matches, and one of them - the England coach, David Lloyd was there to see it.

If England are looking for an opening batsman who can play powerful strokes all around the wicket, then the 25-year-old Surrey batsman should fit he bill. In the end, his 117 came off just 105 balls, 74 of them in boundaries which included five sixes. The hapless off-spinner, Nick Phillips, playing in place of the injured Ian Salisbury, conceded 49 from five overs. His captain, Alec Stewart, ap-

peared to be in no less commanding form. With his feet moving more fluently than in the winter, his knock of 61 was full of stylish drives and cuts that seemed to bump soundlessly into the boundary boards, so sweetly were they timed.

It was not an easy day for bowlers, though Surrey's - particularly those lucky enough to bowl downwind (which also happened to be downhill) made a far better fist of things.

After a last-minute fitness test, Lewis quickly plucked Martin Speight's leg-stump with an in-swinging yorker, before undoing Keith Greenfield with one that bounced to take the edge of his bat. When Lewis rested, Julian tormented with his late swing to get rid of the middle order.

It was a start that Sussex never really recovered from and ular intervals. But for a lastwicket stand worth 46 between Paul Jarvis and Jason Lewry, afstaunch 69, the rout would have been completed far sooner.

Nick Speak and Neil Fairbrother shared an unbroken third-wicket stand of 169 to send Lancashire into the quarter-finals as the holders beat Leicestershire by eight wickets at

More reports, scoreboard,

Peter Reid, whose transfer

dealings at Sunderland were by

financial necessity in stark con-

trast to Fry's, was vesterday

named Manager of the Year by

his contemporaries. Reid

pipped Alex Ferguson, of Man-

Francis fancied as Fry is sacked

Ralph and David Gold, com-

plained in the programme for

Sunday's defeat by Reading about "gutless" displays. But the Essex-based publisher later told

Thomas set for Bayern

Michael Thomas is set to quit

Football

PHIL SHAW

Barry Fry's rollercoaster reign as manager of Birmingham City ended in dismissal and a typically quotable parting shot yesterday, 36 hours after an assurance from the co-owner. David Sullivan, that his future was secure. After his sacking, callers to

Fry's home were met with an answerphone message. "Kristine's gone shopping as usual," he said, "and I've gone to the job centre looking for employment. Funny old game, innit?"

Birmingham were already busy drawing up a shortlist of possible successors with a view io an early appointment. Sullivan cited "Premiership quality and a proven track record" as their main criteria. Trevor Fran-cis, idol of St Andrew's 25 years ago, was installed as favourite.

George Graham, whose yearlong ban from management ends next month, was Birmingham's first choice. An approach

is thought to have been met with a "thanks, but no thanks" from the former Arsenal manager. who may instead re-emerge

with Leeds or Chelsea. Terry Venables also becomes free from his England commitments at the same time, though he may also be setting his sights higher. Apart from Francis, whose pedigree includes third place in the Premier League plus two Wembley finals, realistic candidates include Mike Walker, Chris Nicholl, Steve Coppell and Steve Bruce. Graeme Souness, who has parted company with Galatasaray, could also come into the reckoning.

Fry, 51, paid for a poor sec-ond half of a season in which Birmingham stood third in the First Division on Boxing Day. Their final position, 15th, was the club's highest in a decade, but they took one point from the last four games and failed to win away after November.

Albans Road, Watford

Liverpool for Bayern Munich. The 28-year-old former Arsenal midfielder, who has been unable to hold down a first-team place, has rejected a new contract and will not cost the Bundestiga club a fee. Uwe Rösler. the Manchester City striker, is also reported to be attracting

> the club phone line: "We'll start next season with Barry Fry as manager unless Barry decides

Bayern's attention.

Changing his tune yesterday, Sullivan said: "It's purely because we want to win promotion resulting in a report by the OPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145D1, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St

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Sullivan and the joint owners, next season, and despite Barry's County FA to Lancaster Gate. efforts and commitment we didn't think he could take us any further. After three years and 61 players, we think someone else is entitled to have a go." He expected the former Barnet manager to be with "a club like Notis

County or Luton" shortly.
In the two and a half years after his defection from Southend to Birmingham, Fry presided over relegation from the First, a Second Division championship and Auto Windscreens Shield double, and a run to the Coca-Cola Cun semi-finals this season. He bought more than 50 players at a cost of over £6m and sold nearly 40 for around £5m.

The last match of the Fry era may incur the wrath of the Football Association's disciplinary committee. Three Birmingham players and one from Aston Villa were sent off in Monday's Birmingham Senior Cup final,

chester United, in the annual poll of members of the League Managers' Association. The LMA secretary. John Camkin, said the award was recognition that Reid made "the best use of resources available" in taking Sunderland to the First Division title.

Gordon Milne, the former Coventry and Leicester manager, has taken charge of Bursaspor, of Turkey, after leaving Japan's Grampus Eight. Darren Anderton, the Totnamed in Terry Venables' England squad today for the match

tenham player, is expected to be against Hungary on 18 May and the Far East tour . Venables expects to confirm from Peking that the Chinese leg of the tour will go ahead despite his reservations about facilities.



